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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2011

*"WE HOPE PUBLIC OPINION WILL CHANGE THE COUNCIL'S MIND"*

***ABOVE: Coun Gordon Kemp with the farmers' delegation which included: Alun John; Glyn Jones (FUW chairman); Ross Lewis (NFU); David Harris (NFU secretary); Phil Thomas (FUW vice-chairman) and local farmer David Harris. (PHOTOGRAPH BY MIKE WILCOCK).***

## MANAGER SAYS 'THANK YOU' TO CUSTOMERS

***THE manager of Martin's newsagent in Cowbridge, which has closed its doors after 34 years to make way for a coffee shop, has contacted The GEM to thank local residents.***

*Mr Andrew Mead said: "I have only been manager for the last 20 months, but several staff had in excess of 29 years service.*

*"I would like to thank all our customers, past and present, and especially recently after their expressions of kindness and sadness that the business was closing.*

*"They were also concerned that the members of staff are successful in their search for new employment. Their messages of support have been much appreciated by all the staff."*

*He continued: "A very big thank should go to the staff, including the paper boys and van drivers, who worked tirelessly in such dangerous conditions last winter, to deliver the papers and to ensure that the shop was open for business.*

*"Sometimes it meant sleeping in the shop! Such dedication often goes unrewarded. Finally I would also like to express my thanks to my staff members for all their help and support over the last two weeks since we heard of our unexpected redundancy. I wish them well in their future endeavours."*

NFU AND FUW HAND PETITION TO THE VALE COUNCIL LEADER IN COWBRIDGE

# Farmers make a last-ditch plea for the cattle market

**REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN**

**Representatives of the rural Vale farming community presented a petition to the Vale Council Leader, Coun Gordon Kemp, last Saturday (September 17) in a last-ditch attempt to save the Cowbridge cattle market.**

Earlier this year, negotiations between the Vale Council and Glamorgan Marts, the operators of the market, appeared to have broken down, and it looked as if the market was going to close last May. At almost the last moment, a one-year extension was granted. Some farmers took heart from the absence of any council plans for the site.

However, the situation changed in June, when the council invited tenders from companies to buy the land, with the proviso that these companies should build an extra care facility for the elderly – or similar housing units.

A delegation from the National Farmers' Union (NFU) and the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) sought out Coun Kemp at the 'Vale on the Road' event at Cowbridge Town Hall, when cabinet members and senior council officers were on hand to meet the public.

They met behind closed doors for 25 minutes, and asked the leader to consider a number of points, including the fact that in the last 12 months (September 7, 2010 to August 30, 2011) a total of 27,614 animals (all sheep) were sold at the market – an average of 541 per week.

The area secretary for the NFU, David Harris, said in a letter to Coun Kemp that he had studied the cabinet minutes relating to the decision to sell the cattle market site, and could find no evidence that the economic effect of the decision on farming businesses in the Vale had been discussed.

One local farmer, David Harris (no relation) told The GEM: "Closing the market will leave farmers with a choice of taking animals to market in either Carmarthen or Abergavenny."

The delegation listed a number of extra costs that this would entail, including the obvious one of lorries travelling up to an extra 116 miles to get to market and back.

Taking livestock further afield would mean that all farmers in the Vale would incur the extra expense of having to apply for a Level 2 Certificate in the welfare of animals during transport.

Also cited was the extra time away from their farm, and the likelihood of Cowbridge businesses losing trade because the farmers would be forced to go elsewhere.

They pointed out that the extra miles would put greater stress on the animals, something that would cause loss of weight and therefore loss of value to the farmer.

The delegation quoted Coun Kemp's own words back at him, reminding him of what he had said when the market was given that one-year extension in March.

Coun Kemp's statement at the time was: "*This is great news for Cowbridge and the farming community. The immediate future of the market is secure, and we wish the operators a successful trading year.*"

The delegation said that if the council was set on an extra care facility, it should use either the Lower School site, or the now-vacant Sixth Form building on Aberthin Road.

Negotations with Taylor Wimpey for the sale of the Lower School site are at an advanced stage, but nothing has, as yet, been announced about the future of the sixth form building. The farmers also argued that the existing buildings on those two sites could be converted for extra care accommodation.

They argued that, if the council was determined to "impose this decision on the community", the developer should be obliged to provide an alternative market elsewhere in the Vale, a requirement that had been included in a 2001 development brief.

NFU secretary David Harris added: "I hope public opinion can change the council's mind, so that the market is retained, the total site improved and used by other organisations for events and car parking."

Alun John, the chairman of the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade, said that this would keep Cowbridge as a historic market town, something that was also supported by local town and community councils.

Speaking after the meeting, Coun Gordon Kemp said: "*A useful discussion took place and a further meeting is being arranged.*"

However, he did not appear to favour the farmers' alternative sites. "*The lower school site is owned by a trust and has been sold to a developer. The sixth form site would be too small for an extra care facility,*" he observed.

## *Hairdresser's shop targeted by thieves*

***THE owner of a hairdresser's shop in Cowbridge has told of her shock that the business was a target for thieves.***

*Janet Morgan's family have owned Morgan's Hair Design, a chic salon in Eastgate, for 18 years.*

*Janet told The GEM: "On Friday, September 9, we arrived at work at about 8.45am and found towels on the floor of the staff room, along with papers from the top of a unit.*

*"A pot in the toilet had been moved and drawers in the office turned over.*

*"A substantial amount of specialist brand stock had been stripped from our stands and stolen."*

*The police were called and fingerprints taken. They believe that more than one person was involved.*

*The thieves broke in through a back window.*

*Janet said: "A few months ago, PH71, another salon a little further down the road from us, was also broken into.*

*"I want to warn local hairdressers' shops and other businesses of the potential danger of break-ins.*

*"I was shocked, and wonder with things getting more difficult, whether it is going to get worse."*

*Janet believes the products that were stolen might be off-loaded at a car boot sale.*

*The raid took place in the early hours of the morning on September 9.*

*The police have conducted door-to-door enquiries to gather more information.*

***If anyone has any information on the break-in, they should call Barry Police Station on 01446 734451, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111***

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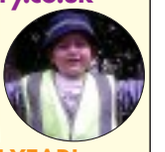
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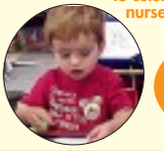
• A personal service - managed by two local primary teachers with excellent links to local schools. CCTV operated in all rooms.
To celebrate their anniversary on 27th September, Rachel and Amy would like to thank the local community, parents who are attending nursery and their staff for all of their support.
To celebrate, they are holding a tea party at the nursery, with lots of special treats for the children.

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# 'FORWARD GEM LETTER TO BANK'

**WITH reference to the letter on September 15, by Mr Mike Meredith concerning the decision by the HSBC Bank to dispense with the cash machine inside Cowbridge branch, I fully agree with his views.**

These were so well expressed, that I would suggest more customers object by cutting out The GEM article and forwarding it, with a covering letter, to the bank's complaints department as follows: *The Manager, Service Quality Team, HSBC Bank plc, Arlington Business Centre, Millshaw Park Lane, Leeds, LS11 0PP*.

There would then be more likelihood of getting the bank to review the decision for the convenience and security of customers.

**Roy Williams, Cowbridge**

# Better use for the new Welsh school?

**WE now have a fine new school for the teaching of Welsh, looking out onto a spacious green playing field at Llantwit Major.**

In my view, it would be best used as lecture rooms for all the pupils of Llanilltyd Fawr Comprehensive School - for the teaching of Welsh, as it is found throughout Wales, in our place names, street names – and, quite often, in the names of houses.

Here we see the efforts of enthusiasts for the Welsh language, quite rightly, maintaining it as our heritage, and imparting a linguistic interest to travellers.

This could inspire them to buy a Welsh dictionary, though there are quite a few booklets dealing with Welsh place names.

These enthusiasts might also explain to pupils the meanings of Welsh first names and surnames. The former would greatly extend the choice of names by future parents, for their children.

In my humble opinion, this would be a far happier use for the school than teaching Welsh as a spoken language, when English is the international language now being taught worldwide.

Any teaching of Welsh as a spoken language would soon become dissipated like chaff before the wind.

**Heather Montgomery, Llantwit Major**

# Meeting over park concerns

**I HAVE recently received a letter from a constituent, written on behalf of the parents of Bassett Street, Everard Street, and surrounding areas, which states they have concerns about the recent refurbishment of Bassett Park, Barry.**

Unfortunately, there is no address supplied to reply to the constituent directly.

The letter states that there is disappointment and dissatisfaction among local residents regarding the refurbishment of Bassett Park.

It would also appear from the letter that the constituent has been in contact with the council, but has been unable to get any satisfaction regarding their questions.

It says that parents and interested parties would be willing to meet me at Bassett Park to discuss a number of issues.

It is, therefore, my intention to be at Bassett Park on Friday, October 7, between 4pm-5pm, where I will be both pleased and happy to meet parents and any others interested parties, to discuss these concerns.

**Coun Richard Bertin, (Independent member, Vale Council).**

## THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

# Readers' Letters

***We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER. AN EMAIL ADDRESS ALONE IS NOT SUFFICIENT!! We will (in certain circumstances) protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.***

# Why are there no heroines listed on the Cenotaph?

## *LET US REMEMBER THEM, ALSO*

**IN a few weeks' time, our council leaders, the Vale AM Jane Hutt and MP Alun Cairns, will be taking part in commemorating the sacrifice of Vale residents during two World Wars and other conflicts.**

**Those conflicts killed people without discrimination. Why then, does the Cenotaph at Barry Memorial Hall refer only to the men who served – with no mention of women?**

**In Merthyr Dyfan cemetery, lies the grave of leading aircraftswoman H Burton of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. She died on St Valentine's Day, 1942, aged only 20.**

**We owe it to her, and many other women who served – not just in the Forces – but in the Land Army, the Forestry Corps, the ARP, the Munitions Factory at Bridgend (30,000 workers) that they should also be remembered in person and on the memorial, too.**

**Christopher Short, Barry**
**(ex RAF Regiment)**

***GEM FOOTNOTE:***
***Mr Short raises a very interesting point. What do other readers think? Write to us at the address given on this page – but please remember to supply your full contact details, even if responding by email.***

# *No dispenser space*

**I AGREE with Mike Meredith's letter on the refurbishment of HSBC Cowbridge – the improvements for the disabled have been long overdue.**

There has been a cash dispenser inside the branch for more than 15 years, and I have used it regularly – being able to access the machine out of the rain and cold was marvellous.

Like Mr Meredith, I also have been told that I can use other machines in the town, which are all outside, apart from Lloyds. But my bank is HSBC, and I would like to use that one.

I did suggest '*where there is a will, there is a way*' and if they really had the desire, they could easily make space for our old, much-used machine.

I suspect the real reason is more to do with cutting staff numbers. They say – "*your custom is important to us*" Really?!

**Alan Brigham, Cowbridge**

# 'Aid record attempt'

**THIS year, St John's School, Porthcawl, celebrates its 90th anniversary and to commemorate this, we are trying to break the world record for the longest chain of scarves.**

In order to break this record, we need to collect 7,000 scarves, which, in a school of less than 200 pupils is no mean feat.

We would like to ask any of your readers who have a scarf or two that they no longer want, to drop them in or send them to St John's School, Porthcawl, to help us.

If and when we break the record, all scarves will be passed on to various charities to make into blankets for the needy.

**Karen Jones, Cowbridge.**

# AMENITY SITE HARD TO FIND

**RECENT letters from local people using the new amenity site at the Atlantic Trading Estate in Barry rightly praise its excellent facilities and helpful staff.**

However, it is not easy to find. There may be instructions on how to get there from the old waste site at Hayes Road, but coming from other directions, and unless you know the area extremely well, it is a challenge.

I found it....eventually, but it would have been a good idea to publish a simple map in the local press to herald the opening.

As public relations manager for Bridgend County Borough Council (1996-99) that would have been my first and very inexpensive priority.

**Derek Hooper, Barry**

# *Thank you, St Curig for open morning!*

**MAY I, through the readers' letters page, say thank you to the friends at St Curig's Church, Porthkerry?**

I would like thank them for the open morning, which gave me an opportunity to see the church bells being rung; I didn't have the courage to have a go myself, but many did and enjoyed it.

It was great to see the children and young people enjoying the treasure hunt and it was good to have a look at the records of parish baptisms, marriages and burials, going way back in time.

Then there was the cake stall, and the tea coffee, squash biscuits and lots more to enjoy.

Best wishes for the restoration work and the raising of the necessary funds

**(Name and address supplied)**

# The Tall Ships were not to be missed

**I WAS fortunate enough to be able to attend the excellent Tall Ships festival at the Waterfront in Barry.**

This year's popular event included visits from The Tall Ship *Stavros S Niarchos*, *The Matthew* and the Royal Navy minehunter *HMS Blyth*. There was also music from a range of Welsh artists and a great selection of stalls.

I would like to congratulate Peter Coleman, a trustee of the Tall Ships Youth Trust and the team who staged such a fantastic two-day event at the Waterfront – it really had something to offer everyone.

The Tall Ships Youth Trust, is a charity dedicated to the personal development of young people aged 15-25 through sail training on the Tall Ship vessels.

It was great to hear how young people benefit from these voyages in so many different ways – from learning new skills and increasing self-esteem, to changing lifestyles and become more healthy and active.

I hope that we'll see the Tall Ships returning to Barry Waterfront next year; it's a great event for all to enjoy and one that will certainly be in my calendar, not to be missed.

Congratulations once again to all who helped and took part in the festival.

**Alun Cairns, MP for the Vale of Glamorgan**

# AGE CONCERN THANK YOU

**MANY thanks to everyone who took part in Age Concern's sponsored walk to the Llantwit Major beach on Saturday, September 3, and to all who sponsored us.**

Thanks to your generosity and kindness, we raised £163. This money is very much appreciated, as it will help to keep our service going.

We had a wonderful morning – even the weather was kind to us. The walk ended with much-deserved tea and cakes at the Llantwit Major office.

*If readers need information about Age Concern, please contact Kathryn Coupland on 01446 795549, or call into the office at 1 Commercial Street, Llantwit Major .*

*Opening hours on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, are between 10am and 1pm.*

**Kathryn Coupland, (Good Neighbour Scheme Co-ordinator)**

# The lesson is… BUY BRITISH!

I WAS buying onions in a local supermarket for a friend who is visually impaired.

She had told me she normally buys the three-packs; they were from Spain – price £1.20. I noticed that the loose onions on the lower shelf were from the UK, so I selected three (they weren't packed in any plastic) which came to 49p. They were slightly smaller than the Spanish, but less than half the price.Two extra bonuses: fewer food-miles, no packaging.

Presumably, plenty of people buy the expensive ones, otherwise the supermarket wouldn't stock them.

They were positioned to be picked up easily by a shopper in a hurry. We grumble about the cost of food, but a second's thought could save money.

**(Name and address supplied)**

# Top musicians are heading to Cowbridge for festival

***MUSICIANS will soon head for Cowbridge from Germany, Switzerland and Siberia, for the third concert of this year's Cowbridge Music Festival.***

*On Friday, September 30, in Holy Cross Church, violinist Andrey Baranov, violist Sergey Malov, pianist Miki Aoki and cellist Mary Elliott will be performing for free – in order to make as much money as possible for the charity.*

*Between them, Sergey and Andrey have been prizewinners at over a dozen major international competitions and are pursuing highly successful solo careers.*

*After finally receiving their visas to enter the UK, they are looking forward to coming to Wales for the first time to play a programme of virtuoso showpieces and chamber music by Brahms and Schumann.*

*Admission to the concert, which starts at 7.30pm, is free, and donations will be invited in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma research.*

*More details are available at* ***www.cowbridgemusicfestival.co.uk.***

***RON O'LEARY***
***Llanblethian***

***SERGEY MALOV.***

## HIGH TIDE TIMES

**(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 29)**

***The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.***

| DATE | Time AM | Ht M | Time PM | Ht M |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 Thur | 02.21 | 7.3 | 14.59 | 7.5 |
| 23 Fri | 04.04 | 7.4 | 16.34 | 7.8 |
| 24 Sat | 05.13 | 8.0 | 17.42 | 8.6 |
| 25 Sun | 06.14 | 8.8 | 18.34 | 9.4 |
| 26 Mon | 07.04 | 9.5 | 19.19 | 10.2 |
| 27 Tues | 07.49 | 10.2 | 20.06 | 10.5 |
| 28 Wed | 08.31 | 10.6 | 20.53 | 10.5 |
| 29 Thur | 09.13 | 10.6 | 21.35 | 10.8 |

***While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.***

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# Anti-drilling protest group demonstrates at town hall

*RIGHT: Members of the protest groups opposing plans to drill for natural gas in the Vale, staged a protest outside Cowbridge Town Hall on Saturday (September 17). Two groups, 'The Vale Says No' and 'Transition Cowbridge' are in the forefront of the campaign to stop Coastal Oil and Gas, which wants to test drill at Llandow. They were at the town hall because Vale Council cabinet members and senior council officers were there, on a 'meet-the-people' exercise called 'The Vale on the Road'. (PHOTOGRAPH by MIKE WILCOCK).*

# Don't suffer in silence with council arrears

## 'HELP IS AT HAND!'

## – says a local councillor

**REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN**

**A county councillor has urged people who run into problems paying council tax or rent, to "seek help early".**

Coun Gwyn John,of Llantwit Major, told The GEM that there had been an increase in cases of council arrears over the last 12 months.

He explained: "It is so important that if people receive letters from the Vale Council because they are facing financial problems, that they seek help early.

"What sometimes happens is that they get a letter and ignore it. When another one comes, they don't want to face that either. People sometimes leave it until the last moment before asking for help."

Coun John said that in one case, he'd been contacted when the bailiffs were about to move in, but that had been avoided.

With the winter ahead, the prospect of rising bills and the current economic squeeze, Coun John said he recognised some people would be faced with awkward financial choices.

"If someone contacts me, I have a confidential discussion with them and then go to the relevant council department to seek ways of dealing with the problem.

"If people don't want to speak to a councillor, they can go to the Citizens' Advice which is very good.

"In fairness to the Vale Council, it doesn't take immediate action."

Coun John said that if a difficulty was flagged up early enough, a solution could often be found.

In one case, where a Vale firm was falling behind on business rates, early intervention had resolved the issue.

He added: "The message I want to get to people is: councillors can help you and point you in the right direction."

## A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM DOWN ON THE FARM...

*LEFT: Farmer Bob's grandchildren Rhys, Kathryn, Clare, Evan, Kate, Rory and Joshua.*

# 'Happy 80th birthday to Vale farmer Bob'

## *(WHO STILL WORKS SEVEN DAYS A WEEK!)*

**LOCAL farmer Bob Brown celebrated his 80th birthday this Tuesday, September 20 – and as you can see (*above*) his grandchildren were keen to say 'Happy Birthday,Grandpy!'**

**Bob has farmed in the Vale for more than 60 years and still puts in a full day's work seven days a week at the age of 80!**

**His daughter Ann Beames told The GEM: "Bob first came to the Vale as a young boy.**

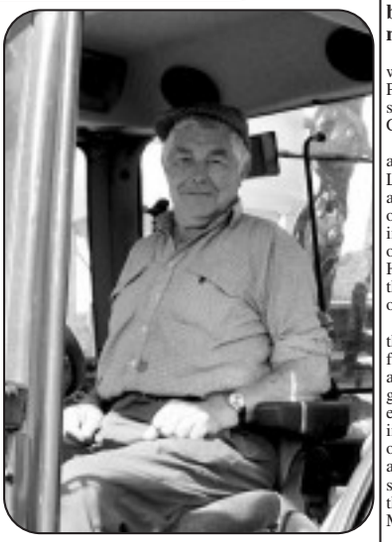
**"He left school at the age of 15 and grew up on his family farm at Howe Mill, Cowbridge where Bob's father was the local vet.**

**"When Bob married Mary in 1962, they moved to New Beaupre Farm at St Hilary.**

**"Bob has seem many changes within agriculture over the last 60 years.**

**"He first farmed with a team of horses, and it would have taken Bob six days to plough six acres with the team of horses, whereas today – in modern times – you can plough six acres in just four hours!"**

**Ann added: "Bob still farms at New Beaupre with his two sons Phillip and David, and still puts in a full day's work at 80 years old."**



***ABOVE:***
***Bob hard at work at New Beaupre – he still does a seven-day week!***

The Dogs' Trust thank everyone for their support and your donations are always welcome - read about the opening of their new store on page 17.

# ..AND, LO, CHRIS SAID

## *'Let there be light!'*

**PENLLYN & DISTRICT WI NEWS**

**THE September meeting was held in the village hall, where members were welcomed back after the summer break.**

The meeting began with president Novello Peters introducing the speaker for the evening, Chris Williams.

Chris is the attendant at Nash Point Lighthouse, and he gave a very interesting talk on lighthouses, explaining their history, the organisation of Trinity House and the way things have changed over the years.

We were surprised at the way lighthouses are funded, and we learned a lot about a service we generally take for granted. We were particularly interested to hear details of our local lighthouse at Nash Point. The speaker was thanked by the vice-president, Marjorie Nash.

Following teas, coffees and cakes, with time available for members to chat and buy books from the bookstall, the result of the raffle was announced and then we began the business section of the meeting.

The minutes were read by secretary, Jane Exell, agreed and signed by the president, Novello Peters.

It was announced that we will be entering a team in the Federation Quiz on September 29, and we wish them every success!

All six members who completed the WI flower-arranging course in Port Talbot were successful in their exams, with two members gaining distinctions and the rest achieving credits.

Novello thanked everyone who had taken part in the WI Show in July, and proudly displayed the Margam Shield and the Bridgend Salver, which had been won by our institute. Prizewinners were presented with their certificates. Well done to all!

Several of our members have joined the federation choir and are preparing for the Federation Carol Concert in Swansea in December.

Members were informed of various forthcoming events, and we were reminded about our institute's annual Walking Treasure Hunt, which will be on Wednesday, October 12.

Members were encouraged to take photographs of 'glimpses of Glamorgan' to enter for the federation 2013 calendar.

**MIKE – LIVE IN PENLLYN!**

**OUR next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 4 at 7.30pm, in the village hall and our speaker, Mike Wilcock, will be talking about '*My time as a dance promoter in the 1960s*.'**

*New members are always warmly welcomed; we meet on the first Tuesday in every month (except August), at 7.30pm in Penllyn Village Hall.*

*For further information, contact Novello 01656 674191 or Marjorie 01656 647115.*

**MN**

# *Eisteddfod field work complete*

PREPARATORY work on the field that will stage the 2012 National Eisteddfod in Llandow has been completed.

Organisers have made plans to cope with wet weather, and a spokeswoman explained what had been done with this in mind.

She said: "With help from neighbours Rhodri Davies and I and K Bradshaw, Tony and Hopkin Evans from Marcross Farm, have completed the first step in preparing the ground for the Eisteddfod at Llandow.

Tony Evans told The GEM: "Never in living memory, has a field been prepared with so much care!

"We are very pleased with what we have done so far. There is still a lot to do, but we have made a good start."

Hopkin Evans explained that the seed that has been planted is a special mix.

He said: "Hopefully, it will allow us to take one or two cuts to feed our cows, but it will leave a good solid base for the Eisteddfod to use, even if we have a wet summer."

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The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Civic Offices, Holton Road,
Barry, CF63 4RU Tel: 01446 709756
Email: scornwell-shaw@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

# Floral art is on show in Cowbridge

*Artists Regine Mercier Williams and Sue Murphy with the Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Andy Banks and his wife Gill (pictured far left).*
**Photographs by MIKE WILCOCK.**

**TWO local artists are staging a joint exhibition in a Cowbridge restaurant.**

Regine Mercier-Williams and Sue Murphy welcomed guests to the opening night, including the Mayor of Cowbridge Coun Andy Banks and wife Gill.

The sangria was flowing and around 70 people attended, including friends of the artists from France.

Sue attended art college many years ago and taught in primary schools until her recent retirement. She has now the freedom to paint again, and her large and bold coloured flowers have been described as 'breathtaking'.

French-born Regine has recently completed a BA (Hons) in fine art at Cardiff School of Art and Design. She said that her work is, in the main, figurative and her interest lies in representing emotion through her paintings.

Her work is inspired by the likes of Henri Matisse and Raoul Dufy.

*The exhibition runs in Oscars until October 15.*

## Beach tragedy at Llantwit Major

**POLICE have confirmed that a 39-year-old man was found dead on Boverton Beach last at 10am last Thursday (September 15).**

The statement did not confirm his identity, saying only that there were "no suspicious circumstances".

However, it has been widely reported locally that he was Mr Paul Jones, the vice-chairman of the Llantwit Major Chamber of Trade.

Mr Jones operated a number of websites devoted to business, tourism and social events in the Vale.

Photographs of events in the Vale, taken by Mr Jones, were frequently featured in The GEM. We join in offering our deepest sympathy to his family.

*The funeral is on Monday, September 26, at 10am in Coychurch Crematorium. Any enquiries should be addressed to WA Brown Funeral Directors (01446 792489).*

# 'I APOLOGIZE'

## *Vale Council cabinet member withdraws his controversial remarks*

**by TIM CHAPMAN**

**A Vale Council cabinet member has withdrawn comments he made last month, which drew a storm of criticism in The GEM's letters pages**

Conservative councillor Anthony Ernest, who represents the Sully ward, and whose portfolio includes tourism and leisure, had argued in The GEM that Barry did not get a raw financial deal and that some readers were peddling "mistruths and innuendo" in the letters' columns.

Late last week, Coun Ernest contacted The GEM to say he hoped a prominent position could be found for him to apologize for his remarks.

He said:

*"I would like to take this opportunity to apologize unreservedly for the comments that I made in my recent letter to The GEM.*

*"I would like to make it clear that I will continue to play my part in encouraging as much public and private sector investment as possible in Barry.*

*"It is always important that we as a council listen to local people and do everything possible to ensure that Barry is great place to live and work.*

*"It is also vital that we do everything we can to maintain and enhance the town's facilities and amenities, not only for those who live in Barry but also for the numerous visitors that are enticed to its many special attractions.*

*"Once again; my apologies."*

At the time of the original remarks, The GEM received an avalanche of letters objecting to the remarks. and some calling for his resignation.

Among his critics were Barry Vale councillor Margaret Alexander, who urged him not to drive a wedge between Vale communities.

Coun Alexander welcomed Coun Ernest's latest statement, pointing out "it is a good thing to apologize – common sense has prevailed".

She said: "I was amazed at the offensiveness of the original letter, but glad that he has had second thoughts about the comments."

Coun Alexander said it was a shame that it had taken "a furore" to encourage a retraction, adding: "It is up to the people of Barry as to whether they accept it (the apology)."

Another Barry councillor was less forgiving. Chris Elmore, who represents the Castleland ward on the Vale Council, said: "Although I welcome Coun Ernest's long overdue apology to the people of Barry, after many weeks of no reaction from him at all, I still have grave concerns about the view he holds that Barry does well, compared to the other communities in the Vale.

"It doesn't – particularly given the population size and social inequalities that exist in the town. I hope Coun Ernest now realises this.

"I'm also concerned that Coun Ernest sits at the Vale Council cabinet table making decisions about Barry while holding the outmoded views that he does."

Coun Ernest was praised by FocusBARRY supporter Dennis Harkus, who said: "I am pleased to hear that Coun Ernest has recognised the offence caused to many Barry people.

"To publicly apologise is the right and honourable thing to do and a very rare event indeed from a leading councillor."

## Mayor's charities get £290 windfall

**BRIDGEND county civic charity appeals committee held a very successful cheese and wine evening at the Seasons Restaurant, Bridgend College Campus on September 14 in aid of the Mayor's chosen charities for 2011/12.**

These are GLAZE Prostate Charity Wales, the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend Riding for the Disabled, Bridgend College, Pencoed camp and STROKE Association (Bridgend).

The well-attended meeting enjoyed entertainment by Kate Williams, a local poet from Peterston-super-Ely, who read and sang her poems accompanied by a guitar.

The service given by the students of Bridgend College catering department was superb with three very capable students under the supervision of Ann Woodhall busy serving and attending to the guests and the Mayor and Mayoress of the county borough.

The charity fund had a boost of £290.

## TOWN CRIER'S COLUMN

# My first official duty on a wild day in Cowbridge!

**I ATTENDED my *first official function in Cowbridge on Saturday, September 17 – Heritage Day.***

*The event was organised by the Civic Trust for Wales, whose aim is to give members of the public free access to historic buildings that are not normally open to them.*

*The council chamber, Mayor's Parlour and museum (all located in the Town Hall) were open; in the council chamber a replica of the town stocks had been erected and other items from the museum's collections were on display.*

*Mrs Town Crier and I had the responsibility of promoting the event and associated activities (including guided walks around the Physic Garden) to the residents of Cowbridge and to the many visitors.*

*This involved parading around the town and engaging in conversations with as many interested people as possible. As I have mentioned in previous columns, it is amazing how many people will talk to you when you are wearing a colourful outfit!*

*Unfortunately, opportunities for 'crying' outside the Town Hall were curtailed by the 'Anti Fracking' protest, which*

*apparently was meant to be a low-key affair, but turned into quite a vociferous activity.*

*We had also been asked to attend the grand opening of the new Dogs' Trust shop.*

*Having arrived in Cowbridge at 10.30am on what could only be described as a grey and wet Saturday morning, we were amazed to see a small crowd had already gathered outside the shop.*

*I had to check the details I had been given to reassure myself that the opening was indeed at 12 noon.*

*Having started the promotion of Heritage Day we arrived at the Dogs' Trust shop at 11.45am. By this time, there was a large crowd outside and the interior of the shop was packed to the rafters with invited guests.*

*Once we had managed to get inside, we discovered it was like a sauna – not ideal when you are wearing full regalia! Many invited guests had brought their dogs and one immediately took a dislike to the feathers on my tricorn hat and proceeded to growl while I was in conversation with various people.*

*The original plan was for me to stand outside the shop and give a cry of introduction for John Barrowman, the celebrity who was performing the opening ceremony.*

*Unfortunately, due to the size of the crowd outside and the fact that the police were valiantly trying to keep people from stepping into the road, this plan was becoming less and less workable.*

*In the end, I was able to stand in a very small space just outside the front door of the shop. I rang my bell, managed three cries of 'Oyez' and 'Would you please welcome Mr John Barrow……?" before the man himself appeared behind me.*

*The crowd cheered like mad, surged forward and engulfed me!*

*Anyway, the opening was a great success, probably beyond the Dogs' Trust's wildest dreams.*

*All in all, my first official duty in Cowbridge was quite an experience.*

*Yours in ringing tones,*

**MARK JONES**
**(Cowbridge Town Crier)**

## OBITUARY

# Mair Eluned Flint Treoes (aged 88)

**THE village of Treoes has mourned the passing of one of its most popular residents**

**This was evident at the funeral of Mair Eluned Flint, which took place on Thursday, September 15, at St Crallo's, Church, Coychurch.**

**Many of the mourners had known Mair for the greater part of her life. Born in Pencoed, her family moved to the the nearby village of Coychurch when she was a young girl.**

**She lived there until by chance she met her future husband, who had come to south Wales from his home in York.**

**The happy couple married in Bridgend in 1951, making their home in a small cottage in the village of Treoes. Sadly, Mair lost her beloved husband Ted, many years ago.**

*MAIR FLINT*

**During the Second World War, Mair, like so many of her generation, was involved in wartime work, making hand grenades at the Bridgend Royal Ordnance establishment. Mair was a popular and active member of the Treoes-based Young at Heart Club and will be remembered with affection by club members and others in the village.**

**Our thoughts at this sad time are with Mair's daughters Rosemary and Sandra, their children, and Mair's sister-in-law Gwen.**

**Following the service at St Crallo's, the cortege proceeded to the Mid Glamorgan Crematorium at Coychurch, where Rev Dr Barrie Morgan officiated.**

***Donations in memory of Mair may be made to Diabetes UK c/o Funeral Directors, Graigwen, 12 Pentwyn Road, Pencoed, CF35 6SB.***

***NANCY DAVIDGE***

# *BRIDGE CLUB LATEST RESULTS*

**VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club (club night, September 12, 17 pairs): First, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner 66.88 percent; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams 61.22 percent; third, Tony Ratcliffe and Roger Penton 59.43 percent; fourth, Anne Hughes and John Edwards 58.05 percent; fifth, Mary Moore and Diana Jones 56.18 percent; sixth, Joan Jenkins and Liam Sheridan 53.54 percent.**

Please note that the Claret Jug competition will be held on Monday, October 3, and Children In Need event starts on Monday, November 14.

Cowbridge and District Bridge Club (club night, Tuesday, September 13, 15 pairs): first, Teri Pollard and David Wright 64.17 percent; second, Ann Miller and Margaret Bancroft 58.75 percent; third, Anne Hughes and Sara Bartlett 58.33 percent; third, Barbara and Colin Easterbrook 58.33 percent; fifth, Mearl Owen and Debbie Rosevear 57.20 pecent; sixth, Marian East and Pauline McAllen 54.58 percent.

All members are invited to attend the AGM, at 7.15pm, on Tuesday, September 27. A party follows at 7.30pm – bring along food only.

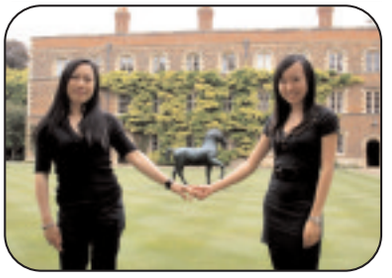
**BRIAN SWAIN**

## JIEYING LUO BEATS LANGUAGE BARRIER...

# How Chinese-speaking student won place at Cambridge, in two years!

**A Chinese teenager has won a place at one of Britain's top universities against incredible odds.**

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN



*LEFT: Jieying Luo with her proud mother, Yanting, at Jesus College, Cambridge.*

Jieying Luo, aged 19, achieved four A* A-Levels, despite only arriving in the country in May 2009!

Jieying told The GEM: "I spent an average of 13 hours every day for five weeks before my seven exams in June 2011, in order to get these tough grades."

At the time, she was also working at the Oriental Diner in Broad Street, Barry, at weekends.

Jieying plans to study engineering at Cambridge University.

She said: "I'm currently in my gap year in Gloucestershire, working for a global company called Delphi.

"I'm very proud of what I've achieved, and hope my success will encourage more young women to study sciences and engineering courses."

Last year, while she was studying for her A-Levels, Jieying also won a gold award in a national maths competition.

Jieying says her inspiration is her mother, Yanting, who came over to the UK three years before her.

"My mum had a very very good and comfortable job in China working as a finance controller in an electricity company, but she gave it all up to get me the opportunity to study in the UK."

In 2006, leaving her family and husband Yiwen behind, Yanting moved to Wales.

"She worked as a chef, which involves a lot of hard work and long hours.

"At the time, I was only able to talk to her on the phone once a week and most of the time she was crying.

"She's damaged her hands with burning oil and chopping knives over the last five years.

"It was brave of her to go and live in a country where she had problems communicating.

"I wasn't a hard-working girl until she left China. I then started working hard and achieved a lot during my study years in China.

"I came to the UK in May 2009 and had trouble getting onto an A-Level course, because I applied later than local students."

Jieying was eventually accepted by Saint David's Catholic College in Cardiff.

"I had to work very hard because everything was so different – the language, culture and education.

"I've faced a number of obstacles over the last two years, but also worked hard over the weekends to save money for university fees.

"At the beginning of my A-Level course, I needed to write down the translation for most of the words in my text book and was only able to understand about 25 per cent of what the teacher was saying.

"Cambridge was my dream, but the tough admission competition really scared me.

"I spent every evening revising and talking in front of the mirror, to practice my interview performance.

"After a long period waiting over Christmas, I received a conditional offer of two A* grades, and two A grades from Jesus College.

"I was very stressed and scared of missing the offer."

Jieying actually exceeded what she needed.

"Last month, I got the news that the hard work had paid off and that I'd achieved four A*s.

"I really want to take this opportunity to thank my mum and hope she is so proud of me."

*LEFT: Ioan Williams, with fellow student Mali Rees and TV presenter Mererid Wigley.*

# Vale student takes a TV trip to Africa

**A VALE student has just returned home after taking part in a TV programme about life in Africa.**

**Ioan Williams, a pupil at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg. was selected to take part in a TV programme being filmed in Malawi by a Welsh company, Telesgop, for S4C.**

**The series is called *Newid Byd (Changing World)* and will be shown this year.**

**There are two projects, one in Malawi and one in Cambodia. Ioan was granted permission to miss the first week of term, and arrived back home last Sunday.**

**It means that Ioan has had an exciting summer– he also gained 10 A*s and three A's at GCSE.**

# Sex offender is fined after foreign travel breaks register rule

Report by AJ SICLUNA

**A PENARTH financial advisor has been fined £1,000 at Cardiff Crown Court for failing to observe a condition when he registered as a sex offender.**

Lee Clarke 65, of Upper Cosmeston Farm, admitted failing to notify of foreign travel when under an order to register as a sex offender.

He had been convicted by Vale Magistrates and committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

Clarke had been convicted at Cardiff Crown Court of 20 offences, including 13 of making indecent photographs of children, four charges of possessing such photographs, and three of possessing extreme pornographic images.

Clarke had been sentenced to 18 months imprisonment, suspended for two years, made subject to a supervision order, and required to register as a sex offender for 10 years.

A requirement of the order, said prosecutor Kayleigh Simmons, was to notify the police of foreign travel within seven days of leaving.

He had been given a copy of the requirement.

On April 1, he left a message saying he was going to Cyprus on April 3 for five days and left the country without completing the relevant paperwork.

He was spoken to by the police on his return and said he didn't intentionally fail to provide details and had left a message on an answerphone.

He also said he was uncertain of the requirements.

His counsel, Ruth Smith, said: "He accepts what was a technical breach. He should have notified the police within seven days, but he believed it was acceptable to go on his journey. It was not a deliberate breach, and he takes his responsibilities seriously. It was not a deliberate flouting of the law. The entire matter caused him great stress."

Judge Isobel Parry said Clarke didn't attempt to conceal his travel plans, but a register had to be taken and treated seriously.

In addition, he was ordered to pay costs of £350 and to carry out 20 hours unpaid work for the community.

# Employer backs call for enterprise zone

**DOW CORNING has backed Pride in Barry's calls for an 'enterprise zone' to be established in the town and its surrounding area.**

A number of the zones have been created in England and campaigners locally are keen to see Barry being able to take advantage of the benfits that 'enterprise status' brings. Incentives to stimulating entrepreneurial activity include lower taxes and discounted business rates.

Dave Ott, the site manager for Dow Corning in Barry, said: "We are committed to our site in Barry and have a strong connection to the community.

"We can see a number of benefits for the region and potential strategic opportunities that would be more likely to occur with the development of an enterprise zone.

"For instance, it would be good to see incentives for developing the brownfield sites in the chemical complex and the docks area."

The chairman of Pride in Barry, Paul Haley said: "This support for an enterprise zone from Dow Corning is in line with the support of the Waterfront Consortium, Associated British Ports and the Vale Council – the major investors and employers in the Vale."

Representations have been made to Huw Lewis, the Welsh regeneration minister to bring a zone to Barry.

In Pride in Barry's campaign, Mr Haley has not only emphasised that Wales needs economic zones as a whole, but that if introduced, a 'greater Barry enterprise zone' must be one of them.

***GEM NOTE:***

***A setback for the campaign... See page 7 for details.***

# First Vale event hailed a success

**THE first Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society event was staged at Sutton Newydd Farm, Llanmaes, Llantwit Major, on Friday, September 16.**

The chairman, Mr Andrew Studley, thanked all the competitors who turned out for the championship.

He also thanked the judges, and the ground owner of Sutton Newydd Farm, Mr Ray Thomas.

Many of the competitors used this event as practice for the All Wales Ploughing and Hedging Championships which were held at Shirenewton, Chepstow, on the following day.

The winners of the society's competitions were: **World Style**, R Granville; **Classic Class**, J Coles, J Isaacs, A Davies; **Vintage Class**, R Conurey, B Jones. E Jones, I Lewis; **Vintage Trailer**, G Harris, S Jones; **Ferguson Class**, P Jones, B George; **Novice**, A Isaacs, E Griffiths.

**BASIL GEORGE**

## SCOUTS' SALE

**THE 1st Pen-y-Fai Scout Group are holding a table top car boot sale at their Scout Hall in Court Coleman Road, Pen-y-Fai, on Saturday, October 15, at 10am-1pm.**

***To book a table, call Jacqui on 01656 674100 or mobile 07773239542 - (cost £5 per table or car). All proceeds will go to the running of the 1st Pen-y-Fai Scout Group.***

# *Public meeting held over centres*

***MORE than 50 people braved blustery winds to voice their concerns at a public meeting on September 7 in Penarth, about cuts at day-care centres for the elderly in the Vale.***

*Councillors have expressed anger at changes to the provision of services at Gardenhurst Day Centre in Penarth and Rondel House in Barry.*

*Couns Janice Birch and Mark Wilson called the meeting, and family carer Sue Phillips spoke about the vital role Gardenhurst Day Centre had played in caring for her 87- year-old mother, who has Alzheimer's.*

*Sue Phillips said: "The group voted unanimously that day centres are vital. Linda Brownhill, manager of the 'Live at Home' scheme, based at Trinity Church, asked for an assurance from the Vale Council that meals would continue to be provided from Gardenhurst for the elderly people who have lunches at Trinity, and for the vulnerable recipients of meals on wheels."*

***• Labour councillors will raise the issue at next Wednesday's Vale Council meeting.***

## Y BONT FAEN WI

**JACKY JONES welcomed members back after the summer break, during which we had met up for a walk from the Plough & Harrow and back.**

We were extremely fortunate to commence with an excellent speaker, Mrs Pat Johnson, who gave a talk and demonstration on 'felt making'. Not only was it educational but it was also very amusing.

We had to continue the evening on a more sombre note with condolences going to one of our members whose mother, Mrs Betty Fraser, died recently. Betty was a founder and dedicated member until illness forced her to stop attending meetings.

We have very happy memories of Betty and our thoughts are with her family.

The business meeting contained information concerning the changing of the Federation's decision to change our annual meetings to April/May from 2013.

Three members are looking forward to attending the Cross Stitch Day at Federation House.

October is set to be a busy month when a delegate will be attending the autumn council meeting. It will also see us enjoying a ghost walk and attending our link meeting, hosted by Llanblethian WI.

Our speaker for October, Claudine Anderson, will be talking on the National DNA Database. New members welcomed.

**JJ**

Find us on Facebook - *facebook.com/gemnews*, follow us on Twitter - *@gem_news*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL**

***Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303***

## Hall events

**AN interesting number of events will take place in Treoes village hall between now and December: On September 24, a Welsh theme night, with singer and comedian, Keith David, with songs by Tom Jones and David Alexander and others, adults only, admission £5.**

October 15, is skittles night. Free admission to this family event, from 6.30pm. October 29 – Halloween family special, with fun and games for all the family. Traditional prizes for the best fancy dress (children and adults).

## Eisteddfod funds

**A WARM welcome to Penllyn on joining Llangan, Treoes and St Mary Hill in our effort to raise funds for the 2012 National Eisteddfod at Llandow.**

The first event take place on Monday, September 26, at the Star Inn, Treoes, with supper, a choice of chicken, scampi or sausage and chips, followed by a quiz; bring a team; tickets £7. Fun begins at 7pm.

Beccy Nutty will run in the Cardiff half-marathon on October 16, to raise funds.

*Beccy can be sponsored on www.justgiving.com/beccynutty or telephone committee member Mary Crandon, on 01656 861933.*

## Harvest festival

**ST MARY HILL Church was very well attended for the harvest festival service on Sunday, September 18, conducted by Bishop David Yeoman and our own Rev Val Hamer.**

It was lovely to see Rev Canon Peter Raikes and his wife Sheila at the service, both looking well.

Following the service, we made our way to the village hall for the harvest supper, which has become an annual event.

A big thank you once again to Mary and Gareth Lloyd, and everyone who puts so much time and effort in making the evening so successful.

# NEW CO'S FIRST SUNSET CEREMONY AT MoD ST ATHAN

*FAR LEFT: Wg Cdr and Mrs Regan with the High Sheriff of Mid Glamorgan, Barbara Wilding, Mrs C Rees and Lt S Willmore.*

*LEFT: Navy, Army and RAF – Cmdr Geoff Large, Colonel Steve Wright and Wg Cdr Paul Regan*

*BELOW: Wg Cdr Regan and Mrs Regan, with Air Commodore Williams.*

**ON September 15, joint Services Officers at MoD St Athan hosted their annual reception and sunset ceremony joined by guests, including the Lord Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Dr Peter Beck, the Mayor of the Vale, Coun John Clifford and Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Gordon Kemp.**

*Lord Lieutenant Dr Peter Beck, Mrs Beck and Sqn Ldr Albie Fox.*

**Also in attendance was the Air Officer, Wales, Air Commodore Dai Williams, Alun Cairns MP and Jane Hutt AM, together with local dignitaries and council members from across the Vale.**

**Historically, this event has been held to coincide with the anniversary of the Battle of Britain, and although St Athan is now a fully integrated tri-Service unit, the tradition of holding the event in September has remained.**

**This was the first sunset ceremony for newly-arrived Commanding Officer, No 4 School of Technical Training, Wing Commander Paul Regan.**

**He said: "Following the Royal Air Force traditions on these occasions, it was rewarding to see the trainees undertake their ceremonial duties with such pride.**

**"Since my arrival at St Athan, I have met many members of the local community who hold a genuine affection for the site, its history and for the people based here.**

**"The annual reception provides the opportunity for us to engage in a more social setting, to express our thanks to the community for their valued and continuing support to the military community at MoD St Athan".**

**Following the reception, officers escorted their guests to the front of the mess, where they assembled on the steps to watch a flypast.**

**It was fitting on this occasion, that the aircraft were two Grob Tutor aircraft from the University of Wales Air Squadron (UWAS), based at MoD St Athan.**

**The first aircraft was flown by Officer Commanding UWAS, and former Nimrod pilot, Squadron Leader Mark Faulds, with an officer cadet.**

**Pilot for the second aircraft was Squadron Leader Carlos Mellen (16R Sqn Cranwell) who also had an officer cadet alongside.**

**UWAS was formed in 1963 and has been based at St Athan since that date. It is one of 14 university air squadrons established at various locations around the UK, which provide flying training for undergraduates.**

**The sunset ceremony was followed by a march past of Royal Air Force trainees from No 4 School of Technical Training led by Parade Commander, Flight Lieutenant Gareth Edwards.**

**Musical accompaniment was by the RAF St Athan Voluntary Band and the salute was taken by Colonel Geoff Wright.**

# Cement company gets the green light for fuels

**LAFARGE Cement UK has received the go-ahead to use two new waste-derived fuels at its Aberthaw Works.**

The Environment Agency Wales has granted the company a permit to evaluate end-of-life tyres and Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) as a partial replacement for more traditional fuels in the energy-intensive cement-making process.

These fuels offer the company the opportunity save up to 15,500 tonnes of coal each year, and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 20,000 tonnes.

The company carried out a consultation exercise with the community before submitting its application.

A Lafarge spokeswoman said: "Solid Recovered Fuel or SRF is processed from non-recyclable wastes generated from homes and other sources

"End-of-life tyres are scrap car and van tyres (more than 30 million of these are generated in the UK each year presenting a significant waste disposal problem.

Lafarge can help address this problem by using the tyres as a very compatible, high energy fuel in cement-making)."

***GEM NOTE:***

*The fact that the carbon dioxide tonnage was larger than the coal tonnage appeared to be an anomaly. The spokeswoman explained: "Both SRS and tyres are classed as partially 'carbon neutral' biomass fuel – the carbon dioxide released during burning is offset by the amount captured during the growth of some of the materials which make up the fuels."*

# *New road sign for cyclists*

***A NEW road sign has been designed to help combat a spate of accidents involving cyclists at Llancarfan.***

*They were taking an unplanned dip in the local ford, after algae growth on the bottom made it a slimy hazard.*

*It had prompted Sue Millard, landlady of the nearby Fox and Hounds pub, to get in touch with Llancarfan Community Council, and with Coun Gordon Kemp, Leader of the Vale Council.*

*The special sign was created to warn cyclists of the potential hazard.*

*Coun Kemp said: "Although the algae does not present a danger for cars, it can be quite treacherous for cyclists.*

*"Our council officers designed a new sign, which has been approved by the Welsh Government, to address the specifics of this problem".*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# ST ATHAN GETS AN ENTERPRISE ZONE BONUS – *but Barry misses out*

**REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN**

**ST ATHAN has been chosen by the Assembly Government to be an enterprise zone specialising in the aerospace sector.**

The decision has disappointed campaigners in Barry, who were arguing for a larger enterprise zone, one that included Cardiff, Barry and St Athan.

The decision was announced on Monday by the Business Minister, Edwina Hart, who announced four other Welsh enterprise zones – each specialising in a different business area.

*The other four are:*

- Cardiff Central Business District – with a particular focus on the financial services sector.
- Ynys Mon – focussed on the energy sector.
- Deeside – with a focus on the advanced manufacturing sector.
- Ebbw Vale – with a focus on the automotive sector.

Mrs Hart said that the five areas had been singled out because "...we need to get best value from the very modest consequential funding of approximately £10 million from the UK Government.

"I am not losing sight of the very real economic challenges faced by other areas of Wales. Therefore, while these are the preferred locations, in the first stage, we remain open to opportunities as they arise in other areas of Wales, where we are already in discussion with local partners."

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "I'm delighted that St Athan has won enterprise zone status, but I can't believe that Barry has missed out again.

"Aeronautics is hugely cyclical and pinning economic hopes on one sector in just one area is not necessarily the most sensible option."

He said that there are "significant plans" to expand MoD St Athan, and hoped that the enterprise zone status could play a part in developing some facilities nearby.

Vale AM Jane Hutt said: "This is welcome news for the Vale. Giving St Athan enterprise zone status will raise real economic prospects for the county as a whole, providing the incentives and levers to develop the civilian aerospace industry from the St Athan site.

"With the town of Barry designated as a regeneration area by the Welsh Government, the council can now move forward with the backing of government, and the opportunities that enterprise zones bring.

"This will mean jobs, training and economic opportunity for St Athan and the wider area, and I am delighted with this good news for my constituents and the aerospace industry."

Plaid Cymru's spokesman for the Vale, Dr Ian Johnson said: "I am very pleased that the Welsh Government has followed a sectoral route of investment in areas to specialise in specific industries, to create local hubs and develop international level skill-bases and best practice in those fields.

"The St Athan Aerospace Business Park has been a long time in the planning stage, and I hope that this new investment kick-starts those plans.

"However, the UK Coalition Government is only providing £10 million in total in Wales for all five enterprise zones, so we wait to see whether additional funding will be available."

The Leader of the Welsh Conservatives in the Assembly, Andrew RT Davies AM, said: "Hopefully, this will act as a catalyst to reinvigorate the St Athan Aerospace Park project, which has stagnated in recent years.

"Having said that, I'm sceptical that the Welsh Government has any real idea how they will bring this project closer to reality."

Coun Rhodri Traherne, cabinet member for economic development and regeneration, at the Vale Council, said it was "exceptionally good news" and that he was looking forward to hearing the details of her proposals.

He went on: "Having said that, the council is disappointed that Barry and Cardiff Airport were not included. There is an urgent requirement to encourage investment in Wales' 'One and Only International Airport' and there is little doubt that 'enterprise status' would have been hugely helpful to our efforts to regenerate Barry.

"I remain concerned about the health of the retail sector in the town and the crippling effects of business rates and employers' national insurance contributions on profitability."

Paul Haley, of the 'Pride in Barry' group, told The GEM that he felt he had been 'outlobbied' by the Cardiff business community.

Mr Haley, with the support of Associated British Ports, Dow Corning, Persimmon Homes, and Vale MP Alun Cairns, had been pushing for an enterprise zone that would stretch from Cardiff to St Athan, giving Barry a chance to be at the centre of it.

He said; "Cardiff didn't need to be an enterprise zone, but it shows how powerful the lobbying groups are there.

"We thought that a company such as Admiral, for instance, could have been attracted to Barry Waterfront, but it looks as if they will now go to Cardiff."

He said: "The Welsh Government already owns the Aerospace Business Park, and I understand that there are companies interested already.

"If they do come, the question is – has the enterprise zone clinched it, or would they have come anyway?"

*He added: "This decision puts Barry further into the dark shadow of Cardiff."*

# HARVEST FESTIVAL AT AMELIA TRUST

***The Amelia Trust Farm recently held its annual Harvest Festival weekend.***

***The event was opened by the Cowbridge Town Crier and visitors were treated to a parade of animals from the farm to welcome them.***

***There were a record number of stalls and activities, including food and craft stalls, children's games, a bouncy castle and live musical entertainment from Julia Harris, children's entertainment from Paddy the clown, and demonstrations from Goshin Karate.***

***On Sunday, the farm hosted a 'Big Picnic' and visitors were entertained by live music from 'Cube Jazz',***

***An act of worship to give thanks for the harvest concluded a very successful weekend.***

***Despite threats of stormy weather, the event was well attended and funds were raised to enable Amelia Trust to continue its valuable work.***

***Lorraine Brown, director, commented: "We are so grateful to the huge number of volunteers who gave their time to support the event, and the local businesses who provided sponsorship.***

***ABOVE: A young visitor gets close to an owl.***

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# PUPILS RESPOND TO THE FOODBANK PLEA

*New year-7 pupils Scott, Josh and Ryan, with some of Barry Comprehensive School's donation to the Vale foodbank.*

*BARRY Comprehensive School was approached by the Vale Foodbank to help it provide families and individuals in crisis with emergency food supplies.*

*The foodbank is the result of a partnership between the Coastlands Family Church and the Vale Council, which has been providing food parcels to people in need since 2007.*

*Health visitors, social workers and other community based organisations will refer people in need of help to the foodbank, where they will receive enough nutritionally-balanced food for three days.*

*The school has collected items specified on the foodbank shopping list and will be delivering them in time for the official opening by Jane Hutt AM tomorrow (Friday, September 23).*

## CCTV assists with two cautions and four arrests

**CCTV in the Vale, working under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with two cautions and four arrests in Barry in the week ending September 18; and one individual was issued with a fixed penalty in Llantwit Major.**

CCTV contacted the police on 41 occasions. On September 14, two cautions were issued on George Street over drug offences, and one arrest concerned criminal damage on Holton Road.

Two arrests were made on Holton Road on September 16; one involved theft and another possession of an offensive weapon. On September 18, one arrest was made concerning an assault on Broad Street.

## BEACH CLEAN

*BARRY-based Friends of Barry Beaches will be holding its next beach-clean on Sunday, September 25 at Porthkerry Beach, meeting by the cafe at the usual time of 3pm.*

*This month, the group marks its first year helping to keep Barry's five main beaches free of litter.*


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# Old (and new) friendships re-forged with a soiree, as French visitors arrive

**THERE was great excitement as the French coach from our twinning town arrived in Llantwit Major on Wednesday, September 7.**

A total of 43 people were on the coach, all being hosted until Tuesday, September 13, by members of Llantwit Major Twinning Association.

The committee had worked hard over recent months, preparing for this visit with a packed itinerary.

We welcomed a number of first time visitors; we have been fortunate ourselves to gain new members over the past two years and some of these hosted for the first time.

This was a great experience and they were a little nervous at first, but it did not take everyone long to enjoy the social events planned.

The new hosts visited Le Pouliguen last year and were welcoming back their hosts.

Thanks go to our Mayor, Coun Eddie Williams, for his excellent speech in French, at the official welcome provided by the town council.

A native of Liverpool explaining in French the phrase "*Calm Down, Calm Down*" isn't easy, but he was brilliant!

*Le Pouliguen friends visit Rhondda Mining Museum – guides were Adrian Helmore and Tony Bennett.*

Thanks also to the children of both St Illtyd's and Llanilltyd Fawr primary schools for the warm welcome extended to us. Mrs Jennings and Mr Smith, the headteachers, are working hard to create strong links with the schools of our twin town, learning French songs and the geography of Le Pouliguen – which is most appreciated.

The French group visited Rhondda Mining Museum and Llancaiach Fawr Manor House where we provided two translators, who proved to be extremely helpful in preparing both speeches and explanatory sheets of information regarding the visits.

Thank you, Karine Langloise and Michelle Scantlebury – your services were most valuable and appreciated.

A good old soiree always goes down a storm – so as you can imagine our two social evenings were so good that in one of them we had one of the longest congas I've seen for a while.

I would like to thank all the members of Llantwit Major Twinning Association for hosting, and the committee for their hard work over the past two years.

Next year, we will have official celebrations both in Llantwit and in Le Pouliguen, marking 30 years of friendship between our towns.

Llantwit Major Twinning Association is always interested in helping to build links between Le Pouliguen schools and associations.

*If anyone would like to know more about twinning, come along to our AGM in the Llantonian Hall on November 23, at 8pm, and meet our members; alternatively, telephone 01446 794729, or 01446 792164.*

**EILEEN BENNETT**
**(Chairperson)**

*The official welcome by St Illtyd's Primary School.*

*Another great soiree was enjoyed at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.*

*Gift exchange – Mayor Eddie Williams with the twinning towns' chairpersons.*

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# Mum Sandra shocked at her lottery windfall

***THE Slack family were celebrating last week, after Mum, Sandra, learned she had won the £5,000 rollover prize in the Tŷ Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery.***

*A "shocked and delighted" Sandra from Barry, said she had never won anything before and had become a member of the Ty Hafan lottery simply to support a local charity close to her heart.*

*As her daughter Emma is getting married next year, the windfall couldn't have come at a better time, she added.*

*Tŷ Hafan spokeswoman Liz Rundle explained: "The Crackerjackpot lottery makes "a significant contribution" towards the £3 million needed every year to ensure Tŷ Hafan can continue offering its valuable care and support to the increasing number of families in Wales who so desperately need it."*

*For more information on how you can become a member of Crackerjackpot, call 02920 672060 or visit www.tyhafan.org*

# STAR PEDAL POWER FOR THE PROSTATE CHARITY

**FORMER Welsh rugby stars Ray Giles, Andrew Lewis and Simon Hill, are cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End to support Prostate Cymru, which helps to fund prostate treatment for men in Wales.**

They will be joined on the 'Doing it the Hard Way' 120 miles a day 'Cyclothon' by friends and supporters of the organisation, which not only finances high-technology treatments, but also promotes increased awareness of prostate disease.

The ride, which would normally take at least 10 days, will be completed in seven days. They are supported by a full back-up team, including Dr Alun Clement, former orthopaedic and trauma surgeon with the Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Health Board.

Chairman and founder of Prostate Wales Charity Trust, Ray Murray, of Cowbridge, said: "We are extremely grateful that Ray, Andrew, Simon and the other three supporters are doing this very challenging ride for our charity. It will be a gruelling slog, from the very north of Scotland to the tip of Cornwall.

"Their efforts are helping us to raise funds that will enable our mission to provide prostate disease patients in Wales with the best treatment.

"We also want to increase awareness among men of prostate disease. Throughout the UK, prostate cancer claims 11,000 lives a year – many of them in Wales. It is important that men are aware of the symptoms and get early medical advice and treatment."

He continued: "We have contributed funding for the Centre of Excellence for Green Light Laser treatment for prostate disease at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, via our Glaze Prostate Charity.

"It has focused on the provision of equipment and training for health-care professionals. With Prostate Cymru we are now moving up a gear to help finance the very latest surgical equipment. We will be launching our new campaign soon."

*People can support the charity and the cyclists at www.justgiving.com/jogle wales. Further information and a video diary of the journey can be seen at www.prostatecymru.com*

**WE**

# *Christmas Child is back!*

**OPERATION Christmas Child, the annual children's charity campaign, set to launch in the Vale from September 24, is looking to supporters to continue providing shoeboxes filled with gifts for needy children overseas.**

Cardiff, South Glamorgan and Vale of Glamorgan area coordinator for Operation Christmas Child, Ted Bird said: "We are one of the UK's largest annual children's charity projects, distributing over one million gift-filled shoeboxes to needy children at Christmas time last year: 2011 is the 21st year of Operation Christmas Child.

The level of support from across the county is vital to the continued success of the project and we know we can count on people's big-heartedness even in difficult economic times.

"Last year, we received shoeboxes from supporters in a wide range of communities, including Barry, Cardiff, Cowbridge, Dinas Powys, Llantwit Major, Penarth, Radyr, Rhoose and Taff's-Well and over 12,300 gift-filled shoeboxes were distributed to vulnerable children in Belarus, Crimea and Kosovo.

"It's wonderful to think that we are a small part of such a large global project that is doing so much good for millions of children.

*Operation Christmas Child is an initiative of Samaritan's Purse, a Christian relief and development organisation.*

• *Anyone wishing to participate in this year's shoebox campaign should visit* ***www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk*** *or contact the Helpline on* ***0870 011 2002.***

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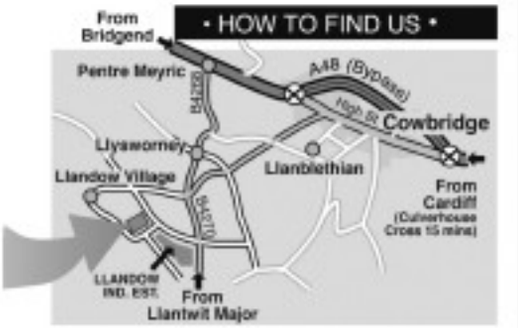


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Graham Nelson - Director

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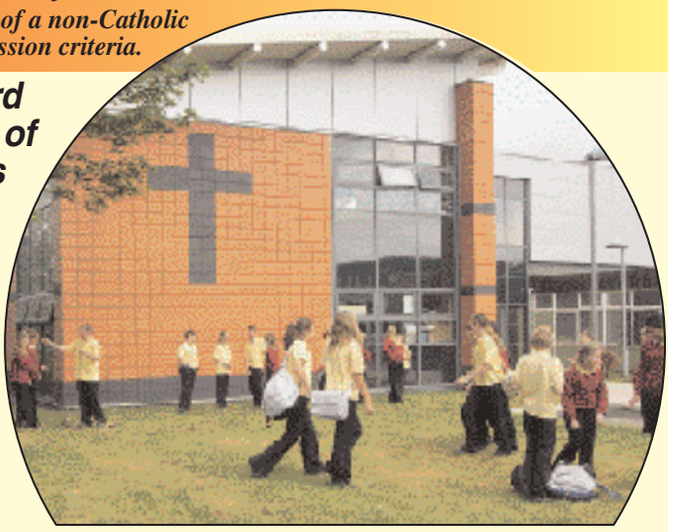

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# Mother escapes prison

**A MOTHER who broke her baby daughter's left arm, has escaped prison at Cardiff Crown Court.**

The woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, and who lives in the Vale of Glamorgan, was said to have been "virtually a prisoner" in her home.

She was convicted by Vale Magistrates of offences of wounding and assault by beating, and had been committed to the Crown Court for sentence.

She was jailed for nine months, suspended for 18 months, made subject to a supervision order for 18 months, has to observe a 9pm to 7am curfew for four months, and be electronically tagged.

Judge Isobel Parry said it was exceptional for a partner such as herself to admit to what she had done.

At the time, the judge said, the woman had been in a "violent and controlling relationship" with the baby's father.

Added the judge: "It's difficult to understand why you were not able to escape from that relationship. I don't think you were malicious when you committed those offences. You were struggling to cope."

Prosecutor Gareth Evans said that in July, an ambulance was called to the woman's address. Paramedics saw the baby on a sofa crying and in obvious distress.

They were told the child had rolled off the sofa and the mother had grabbed her arm.

She was taken to the University Hospital of Wales, where an x-ray revealed a fracture of the left arm. There was also bruising to the right cheek and right forearm.

Two days later, said Mr Evans, a social worker discussed the injuries with the mother.

She broke down and said: "The truth is I lost my temper, and I grabbed her arm in anger. She would not shut up."

Her barrister, James Evans, said: "There is already an element of punishment in her losing her clean character.

"She is not a wicked woman who set out to hurt her child. Her partner had virtually imprisoned her in her home for six weeks."

He said she suffered depression and for those weeks, she was under unrelenting pressure.

He said she even had to hide money for food, so that her partner would not use it to buy cannabis.

The child, he said, was now with foster parents.

"In the long term, she hopes to have the child back and has said that whatever the court did to her, was what she deserved, such is her remorse."

He said punishment was not an appropriate way of dealing with her.

**AJ SICLUNA**

# Penfest 2011 thumbs its nose at the weather!

THINGAMIJIG.

LLANCARFAN SCHOOL.

Report and pictures by
**GAVIN DAVIES**

RAFFLE WINNER'S DELIGHT.

A GOOD TURN-OUT.

Andrew Matthews (second left) singing with vocal group Baroc.

**THERE may have been rain around the Vale, but on Saturday, September 10, we had very good weather for Penfest 2011 – Penmark's fifth music festival.**

Yes, it did rain – for all of five minutes – and the sun we had more than made up for that.

Aubrey Bowen kindly allowed us to use his orchard by the castle ruins again, and it really is a beautiful setting for an event like this.

The festival opened with a peal by the Bellringers from St Mary's Church, just over the wall from the festival ground. St Mary's Church itself had been decorated and was open for visitors who could also inspect the registers.

Once the ringers had finished, the Llancarfan School Recorder Group started a full and varied programme of music which lasted well into the evening.

All the acts were really great but some deserve a special mention.

Roseanna Forte, who is going to Oxford to study music, and her friend Hannah, played string duets for us while Sophie Thomas, Lucy Atkins, Seren Adamson, Dan and Andrew Wigley and Will John and Harry Brookes played and sang a wide selection of music.

Folk music came next with Thingamijig, who even managed to get many of the younger members of the audience to dance.

As evening came down, we went for heavy metal with The Unknowns, who have appeared at nearly all our festivals and who were followed by our local star, Chloe Davies.

Then Andy Johnson sang a wide range of popular songs to round off an excellent event compered as usual by Mac Perry, who also performed and helped to set up the equipment. A great effort, thanks Mac!

We think some people were put off by the weather during the week, but even so, at least 240 people turned up – sometimes they were so enthusiastic it seemed like more.

Lunch, a pork roll with salad followed by homemade apple crumble, went down very well, the bar did a lot of business all through the day, and the cash barbecue allowed everyone to refuel before the later acts.

The Six Bells, Penmark and RAN Sales and Hire of Barry sponsored us and many people and firms gave us all sorts of help to allow us to put on this very successful event.

The event is normally run to raise money for our Village Hall but this year we will be making a donation to Motor Neurone Disease Charities in memory of Ann Radcliffe.

Thanks to everyone who helped us and to everyone who attended – we hope you all had a great time and look forward to seeing you next year.

COMPERE MAC PERRY.

# BARRY *Comprehensive* SCHOOL

*"Any extra help or support my son has needed over the years has been given without question. We always recommend the school at every opportunity."*

*"We were a little apprehensive as our son came from such a small primary school, but our fears were laid to rest. He thoroughly enjoys school."*

*"A big 'thank you' to all teachers and staff who have made our sons' experiences of school and learning a positive one."*

## Head Teacher David Swallow and his staff invite you to the

# OPEN EVENING

## Thursday 29th September

### 7pm – 9pm

Our motto of "Opportunity to Succeed" is clearly evident in so many different ways. Academic success is at the forefront of the school's continued development. A Level and GCSE success at the highest level was evident again this year. At GCSE, 70% of students gained 5 or more A*- C grades and over a third of students enjoyed 10 or more pass grades.

Support for students to achieve their full potential is in place from the first day they arrive at school and the opportunities available outside the classroom are numerous. The school's recent International School Award from the British Council reflects how strong our links are globally and we are also proud to be an integral part of the local community.

Students enjoy visits throughout Europe and our strong links with schools in Sri Lanka have been recognised by considerable press coverage nationally. Every pupil who joins us should aspire to involve himself in all aspects of school life.

Feedback from a recent parental survey was very positive and some of the responses are reported on this page.

*"My child has thrived in this school and achieved more than I thought possible."*

*"We feel staff have played a massively positive part in helping our son become a well-motivated young man."*

*"Staff are totally dedicated to not only providing an education, but also in supporting their pupils on a day to day basis."*

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# WHAT'S ON - in brief

### Cosy nest

**NEST (Making Wales Cosy) a Welsh Government programme will be holding an informal advice surgery at the Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry, on September 29, 10am-11.30am. An advisor will be available to give practical advice on energy-related issues such as insulation and ways of saving energy.** *Contact 01446 732385.*

### Art society

**A meeting of the Cowbridge Art Society will be held at 7pm on September 29 in the annexe of Old Hall, High Street, Cowbridge, when Barry Herniman will be giving a watercolour demonstration.**

**Non-members are welcome to attend.**

### Gardening club

**THE Cowbridge Gardening Club will meet again after the summer break on September 29 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Town Hall, Cowbridge, when the speaker will be Mrs Enid Hart, with a talk entitled 'All about clematis'.**

### Spiritualists' meeting

**CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, is holding a spiritual photographic evening with Emma and Gareth on September 29, at 7pm. £2.50 at the door. All proceeds goes towards the renovation of the church.**

### Railway talk

**THE first lecture of the 2011-2012 season by the Vale of Glamorgan Railway Co, Barry (formally the Barry Island Railway) will take place on Thursday, September 29, in Barry Dock Conservative Club at 7.30pm.**

Local historian Mr Gavin Davies will talk about the worst disaster to have happened on a railway in Britain.

In 1915, a troop train carrying soldiers enroute to the fighting in France collided with an empty passenger train, north of Carlisle. An express then ploughed into the wreckage.

Mr Davies,who is a member of the Western Front Society, will also talk about other accidents involving troop trains. New members are always welcome.

### Art auction for charity

**ORIGINAL work by Welsh artists will go under the hammer for charity next week.**

Shelter Cymru auctions have become a popular fixture of the Welsh arts scene. This year, a record 54 artists have contributed 72 pieces and organisers are hoping this will help them match the £27,000 raised by last year's auctions.

One of the auctions takes place on September 30 at the Washington Gallery, Penarth.

*Entry is via a bidding ticket available free from Shelter Cymru. Email fundraising@shelter-cymru.org.uk or phone 01792 469400.*

### Kettle on for charity

**ON Friday, September 30, Arthur and Carole, who work at WA Brown & Son, Funeral Directors in Llantwit Major, will be taking part in the world's biggest coffee morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.**

The office in College Street, Llantwit Major, will be serving coffee (and tea) with biscuits between 10am and 1pm in exchange for a donation, however small or large.

*For further information, call 01446 792489.*

### Charity dinner

**VALEPLUS, the Vale-based charity that provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning disability, holds its annual dinner dance on September 30 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall, Broad Street, Barry.**

Tickets cost £17.50. There will be a three-course meal and disco. The theme will be 'A Masked Ball'.

*Contact Melanie or Steve on 01446 746691 or by email steve@vale-plus.or.uk.*

### Pub songs

**THE Half Tidy singing group will be appearing at the Sportsman's Rest pub, Peterston-super-Ely, on Friday, September 30, when a collection for the 2012 Eisteddfod appeal will be taken during the sing-along evening.**

### How to keep active

**VALE Older People's Strategy Forum will mark Older People's Day on October 1 with advice on 'Getting and Staying Active' at the Cowbridge Town Hall, from 9am-1pm.**

Try Nordic walking, indoor sports activities, computer tasters and browse information stalls.

### Friends' coffee

**FRIENDS and Neighbours are celebrating Older Persons' Day on Saturday, October 1, with a coffee morning at The Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry.**

The event will be opened by Jane Hutt AM, at 10am. Admission is free and there will be a wide range of stalls. All proceeds for Friends and Neighbours' Christmas party and other activities. *Contact Gay Fifield on 01446 400044 for further information.*


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A star studded welcome to the DogsTrust Cowbridge Branch

# TOP TV ACTOR VISITS COWBRIDGE TO OPEN NEW DOGS' TRUST SHOP

The crowds waiting to greet the TV star in Cowbridge.

Photos by MIKE WILCOCK

Harris and his star owner, with two of their fans at the shop.

**A TOUCH of Hollywood-style fever came to Cowbridge on Saturday (September 17) when the star of *Torchwood* and *Desperate Housewives*, John Barrowman, opened the new Dogs Trust charity shop in the town.**

The actor is a long-standing patron of the charity, and he started the celebrations at 12pm, declaring the shop open with the help of his dog, Harris.

The actor stayed for more than an hour, signing autographs non-stop, (*see left*) as well as having photographs taken with shoppers.

A Dogs Trust spokeswoman said: "The event was a huge success as the public joined in the festivities and enjoyed drinks and nibbles.

"Savvy shoppers and their dogs were able to get first dibs on the array of bargains on offer thanks to the generous donations the shop has received so far."

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*Music Treats are on offer!*

*Musicians of the Vale will be holding a concert of vocal and instrumental music on September 24, at 7.30pm in Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge. There will be a song recital on Tuesday, September 27 and a charity chamber music concert on September 30 (both at 7.30pm in the church).*

***Full details at www.cowbridgemusicfestival.co.uk***


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**Young Diners (12 and under) Half Price**

**Boxing Day - Normal Menu**

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**Lunchtime Christmas Menu**

STARTER
**Pate Fegatini di Pollo**
Homemade chicken liver paté served with hot toast
**Zuppa del Giorno**
Minestrone Soup
**Funghi con Aglio**
Mushroms in garlic and white wine sauce
**Prosciutto Mozzarella**
Mozzarella Cheese and parma ham

MAIN COURSE
**Penne Pollo and Vino Bianco**
Chicken, white wine, cream and a hint of garlic
**Pizza with 2 toppings**
**Salmone ai Gambaretti**
Salmon with prawns and garlic butter sauce
**Risotto al Funghi e Formaggio**
Risotto with mushrooms and parmesan cheese

2 COURSE £8.95
3 COURSE (INCLUDING TIRAMISU) £11.95

**Christmas Dinner Menu**
3 COURSE MEAL £19.95

STARTER
**Gamberoni Al Vino Bianco**
King Prawns cooked in garlic butter, white sauce
**Funghi Con Aglio**
Mushrooms served in garlic white wine sauce
**Chicken Paté**
Chicken paté served with toast and salad
**Zuppa di Vegatali**
Vegetable soup
**Asparagi & Gamberetti**
Asparagus, peeled prawns, parmesan cheese and cream baked in oven
**Raviolo ai Funghi**
Fresh ravioli cooked with mix of mushrooms, parmesan and cream

MAIN COURSE
**Bistecca Pepe Nero**
Sirloin steak grilled, served with black peppers, red wine and cream
**Pesce Spada**
Swordfish with lemon sauce
**Pollo Prosciutto e Mozzarella**
Chicken breast wrapped in parma ham, cooked in tomato sauce and topped with cheese
**Penne Ortolana**
Garlic, olive oil, courgettes, aubergine, cherry tomatoes and mozzarella
**Risotto Marinara**
Sea food risotto or risotto mushrooms

DESSERT
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# What's on and where in your area

## Miscellany of Music

**BARRY Choral Society invites the public to a Miscellany of Music at All Saints Church, Barry, tomorrow (September 24) at 7.30pm.**

Under the musical direction of conductor Eugene Monteith, and accompanied by pianist Emma Arscott, the choir will perform music by a variety of composers.

It includes Brahms' *How Lovely are Thy Dwellings* from his German Requiem, *Irish Blessing* by Bob Chilcott, *Ave Verum* by Elgar, *Locus Iste* by Bruckner, *The Seal Lullaby* by Eric Whitacre and Rutter's *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*.

The choir will also sing two Kandar and Ebb pieces and Gwyn Arch's arrangement of 'Fly Me To The Moon'.

The choir will perform the winning entry in their Royal Welsh College of Music and DramaComposition Prize – an annual prize donated by the choir.

The winner was Thomas Morgan, with his arrangement of 'Love Divine All Loves Excelling'.

Other pieces will include the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's *Messiah*.

*Tickets, at £6, are available from Harmony Furnishings, High Street, or at the door.*

## Coffee morning

**A COFFEE morning in aid of restoration work on two local historic buildings in Llantwit – The Galilee Chapel at St Illtud's Church and Bethesda'r Fro Chapel at Eglwys Brewis, will be held on September 24, at 10.30am at West Farm, West Street. Pay on the door. Some parking in field.**

## Harvest service in Penarth

***ALL Saints Church, Victoria Square, Penarth, is holding a special family service to celebrate Harvest on Sunday, October 2, at 10am.***

*Refreshments will be served afterwards. Gifts of fresh fruit and vegetables or dry goods will be much appreciated, for distribution within the parish. All are welcome.*

*The parish of Penarth All Saints is launching another Alpha course this autumn. Alpha is an informal way to explore the Christian faith through talks and discussion over a meal.*

*This year's course will begin with a 'taster' session on Wednesday, October 5 at 7.30pm – all will be welcome, of any faith, or none.*

*For further details, contact Becca on 02920 709467.*

## Football for girls

**A NEW weekly 'turn up and play' football session for girls starts at Parc Bryn y Don, Dinas Powys, on September 24, between 12pm and 1pm for girls of all ages and abilities.**

*For details, contact Grant Kalahar on 07792 223573.*

## Garin speaks

**FORMER Wales rugby international Garin Jenkins will be speaking at Salem Baptist Church, Beryl Road, Barry, this Sunday, September 25, at 11am. Barry Ladies Choir will also be singing on the day. Everybody welcome. Free admission.**

*For further information, contact Chris Lacey of Salem Baptist Church on 07414 187 211.*

## Back to church

**BARRY churches are joining the national 'Back to Church' campaign on September 25.**

St Paul's Church is located in St Paul's Avenue, next to High Street School and the service starts at 10am.

## Valeways walks

**VALEWAYS guided walks for September last for 60-90 minutes, except for extended walks which last for up to two hours.**

Sunday, September 25 at 2pm:'Autumn's start' at St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys. *For details, telephone 01446 749000.*

## Harvest festival

**HOLY Trinity Presbyterian Church, Barry, is holding harvest services on Sunday, September 25, a 11am and 6pm with Rev Duncan Ballantyne officiating.**

**All are welcome at services held in the church community hall on the corner of Aberystwyth Crescent.**

## Come listen to the band

**LOVERS of heritage should make the trip to Cadoxton this Sunday, September 25, as the Barry Brass Band return to Victoria Park to play their last concert of the summer, in the recently-restored bandstand, as part of the UK-wide National Bandstand Marathon.**

The band will be playing their brand of traditional, modern and sometimes whacky, arrangements.

The concert starts at 2pm and admission is free.

## Enrol on a course!

**WITH just a few days left until adult education classes begin on Monday, September 26, staff at adult and community learning centres across the Vale are still taking last-minute enquiries, as students rush to take up the last few places on courses for the autumn term.**

It's not too late to enrol on a course and there are some places available on a wide variet.y of courses.

These include: computers, creative arts, languages, health and well-being, music and dance and personal development, history and literature courses.

*Learners are advised to call centres to check on availability in the first instance. Contact 01446 738054, badecen@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or 01446 733762 palmerstoncentre@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk*

## Lifestyle course

**MEND, a 10-week after-school programme funded by the Welsh Assembly will be held at Barry Leisure Centre from September 26.**

Local families with children aged between seven and 13 can learn about nutrition and how to maintain a balanced diet, while children take part in fun games and activities.

The free course also includes a visit to a supermarket to learn how to read food labels.

## Mayor's coffee

**THE Mayor of the Vale's charity coffee morning at St Helen's Church Hall, Wyndham Street, Barry, on September 27 at 10.30am to 12 noon, will be in aid of St Mary's Church, Barry.**

## Zoar service

**ZOAR Presbyterian Church, Bonvilston, will hold a harvest thanksgiving service on September 28 at 7pm, when the guest speaker is Rev Charles Chua of Swansea.**

Everyone is welcome.

## *Live music*

***LIVE music from Collider, at Gordon Bennett, 8.30pm every Thursday. Contact Dave on 07834 298 941.***


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Gyrfa Cymru Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale

Developing people through lifelong career planning

## What we do

**Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale is responsible for the delivery of:**

- The statutory Careers Service (Youth Guidance Services), Youth Gateway and Education Gateway
- Cardiff and Vale Education Business Partnership (EBP)
- Adult Guidance Services
- The Learning and Careers Advice helpline in Wales

# Careers Wales

# Here to help you!

## Molly makes the right career move

Molly Willis, centre, administration apprentice at Cooke & Arkwright with Jane Shankland, associate director of the company and Leon Patnett, post education business manager, Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale.

**Following a work taster placement organised by Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale, eighteen year-old Molly Willis is delighted to be settling in so well at her job with a high profile Cardiff firm.**

Molly left Stanwell Comprehensive School, Penarth following her GCSEs to take up a career in hairdressing but soon realised that this was not what she wanted.

Having sought advice from Careers Wales, Molly was set up with an interview for a work taster placement with chartered surveyors, Cooke & Arkwright.

The scheme provides employers with the opportunity to assess a candidate's suitability over two weeks before committing to a permanent contract, while the candidate gets the chance to demonstrate their skills and potential.

Having successfully been accepted by Cooke & Arkwright, Molly has gone from strength to strength and is now following an apprenticeship in administration with the company.

**"I'm so pleased to have been given this chance and am loving my job,"** said Molly.

**"I realised hairdressing wasn't for me but needed some direction and this is exactly what I got from Careers Wales – I even received help to update my CV and also with interview skills which was so useful. As well as the experience I'm gaining on the job, I'm being supported by a training assessor from learning provider ACT."**

Jane Shankland from Cooke & Arkwright added: **"Involvement with the Work Taster Scheme is a new thing for us but it's worked out so well with Molly."**

**"The idea of a taster gives all concerned the chance to work out if things are right and we're delighted with Molly's progress."**

## Redundancy leads to new career

**When Paul Jones lost his job in 2009 after working for ten years as a bricklayer, little did he realise that redundancy would provide him with the opportunity to forge a new career as a specialist trainer in the security industry.**

Following his redundancy, Paul registered with Jobcentre Plus and was told about ReAct, a scheme set up by the Welsh Government to help retrain individuals who are newly redundant. He was also referred to Careers Wales to discuss his plans.

Paul was interested in pursuing a career in the security industry and was aware he needed to be properly trained and qualified to get work. Careers adviser Phil Mason informed him of local courses available and as a result Paul successfully applied to Primus Training and Consultancy.

Paul said: **"Phil was very supportive. He talked though my options and gave me the information I needed to enable me to decide what to do next."**

Paul completed a course leading to a Security Industry Authority (SIA) Close Protection Licence. Staff at Primus Training were so impressed with his ability and enthusiasm that he was invited to apply for a position with the company to train as a trainer.

Paul Jones, now a trainer with Primus Training following a change in career.

Paul added: **"I went through several vigorous assessments with Primus Training and also worked towards the City and Guilds Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification to enable me to teach.**

**"I now teach a range of courses and am also involved in business development for Primus Training. I also work part-time for RAS Security to maintain my practical skills."**

## Looking for advice on learning and careers?

We can help, whatever your age or situation - whether you're at school or college, unemployed, facing redundancy, thinking about your first job or a career change, or want to improve your prospects in your current job.

- Visit our website **www.careerswales.com** for information on careers, courses, jobs and training including apprenticeships.
- Call our national **Learning and Careers Advice helpline 0800 100 900.** If calling from a mobile please telephone 029 2090 6801. Lines are open between 9am-9pm Monday-Friday and 9am-12 noon on Saturday. You can also email us at **lca@careerswales.com**
- If you want to speak to an adviser face to face you can drop in or phone to make an appointment at one of our centres.

  **53 Charles Street, Cardiff CF10 2GD** Tel: 029 2090 6700
  **49 Holton Road, Barry CF63 4HF** Tel: 01446 410600
- Young people in full time education can arrange to see their careers adviser at their school or college.

A group of Year 9 students taking part in the Discover! Saturday Club find out more about aircraft maintenance at British Airways Maintenance Cardiff with engineer Gareth Davies.

# Saturday Club rolled out across Wales

**A made-in-Wales initiative to encourage more girls to take up science and engineering has been highly acclaimed by a prestigious awards body and is being rolled out across the country.**

The Discover! Saturday Club was launched four years ago by Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale Education Business Partnership (EBP) in association with WISE (Women into Science, Engineering and Construction) to encourage girls in Year 9 to pursue their interest in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and provide them with the opportunity to explore career opportunities which they may not have previously considered. The club has twice received recognition at the UK finals of the WISE Partnership Awards held in London.

This year sessions were conducted by Cardiff University, BRASS (The Centre for Business Relationships, Accountability, Sustainability and Society), RWE npower at Aberthaw Power Station and British Airways Maintenance Cardiff. Following their success, Discover! clubs are being developed by Careers Wales across Wales.

## Improvements to our services

- We are refurbishing our Careers Centre at 49 Holton Road, Barry to provide more interviewing space and improve the reception area. Youth Gateway in the Vale will also be based there. This work forms the final part of our plan to improve facilities for customers which included the refurbishment of Youth Gateway and our Careers Centre in Charles Street, Cardiff.
- We have developed our systems to manage the performance of our staff, ensuring the best possible service to our customers.
- In a recent survey, 96% of Year 11 students (15 and 16 year olds) who were questioned felt that their interview with a careers adviser had been useful, quite useful or very useful.

# Working in partnership @33

From left: Sharon Jones (Cwm Taf Local Health Board), Lisa Fryer, (Youth Gateway Careers Wales), Joe Payne (Llamau) and Steven Carroll (administration support)

**Careers Wales is committed to working with other key organisations to enhance support for 16 -18 year olds not in education, employment or training and has recently welcomed several new partners to its Youth Gateway Centre in Charles Street Cardiff, now known as @33, to develop this multi agency approach.**

Youth Gateway advisers provide ongoing guidance and support to help young people overcome barriers that stop them accessing education, employment or training.

A Learning Coach team of careers advisers and youth workers, funded by Cardiff Children and Young People's Partnership and Cardiff and Vale 14-19 Networks, also works from the centre to help those often considered to be hardest to reach.

The new multi-agency approach will also enable young people to have access to other services to help them deal with problems they may face as they move into adulthood and working life. Helping to assist the most vulnerable clients @33 will be a Healthy Mind Worker from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, Cwm Taf Local Health Board and counsellors from Action for Children.

Housing Officers from Housing Options (Cardiff Council and Llamau) and a social worker from Cardiff Council Social Care Services will be also be providing advice and support from mediation workers who will be able to assess and advise 16 and 17 year-olds seeking help with their ongoing accommodation queries, care and personal development needs.

Careers Wales advisers are also based with the Youth Offending Service in Cardiff and the Vale to help young people who have offended.

Gyrfa Cymru Careers Wales

## How we did in 2010/2011

| Support for students in secondary and further education in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan | | Achievement | % against target |
|---|---|---|---|
| Interviews. | | 16,129 | 120% |
| Moving Forward Plans. | | 11,420 | 104% |
| Group sessions. | | 1,733 | 94% |
| Young people taking part in Education Gateway, a motivational programme for 14 -16 year olds and young people in college. | | 693 | 109% |
| Young people receiving mentoring support from Education Gateway advisers. | Interviews<br>Group sessions | 2,662<br>869 | 164%<br>98% |
| Work with young people with a Statement of Special Educational Need. | Interviews<br>Transition Reviews attended<br>Learning and Skills Plans<br>Group sessions | 1,025<br>591<br>153<br>19 | 139%<br>104%<br>93%<br>119% |
| Number of young people who received support for an education business activity. | Primary schools<br>Secondary schools | 17,558<br>29,134 | 130%<br>108% |
| Number of work experience placements arranged. | 14 -16 year olds<br>16 -19 year olds | 5,686<br>1,047 | N/A<br>N/A |
| Number of young people taking part in business and enterprise. | 12 -16 year olds<br>16 -19 year olds | 6,659<br>1,670 | N/A<br>N/A |
| Number of young people receiving employer support for mentoring and individual goal setting. | | 1,078 | N/A |
| Number of young people involved in setting up small business projects with employer support. | 12 -16 year olds<br>16 -19 year olds | 3,653<br>1,673 | N/A |
| Number of young people participating in employer supported curriculum delivery/development activities. | | 17,993 | N/A |

**Support for schools and colleges**

Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale works closely with teachers and lecturers to ensure pupils and students receive high quality careers education and guidance. During the year 41 training events were organised involving 110 teachers and associated staff. In addition 381 primary and secondary school teachers and college lecturers were helped to find placements with employers: 92% against target.

| Support for parents and guardians Surveys have found that parents and carers are the biggest influence on the career decisions of their children | | |
|---|---|---|
| Discussions with parents. | 1,257 | N/A |
| Parents evenings attended. | 75 | N/A |
| Mailings to parents of students in Years 7, 9, 10, 11 & 12. | 23,175 | N/A |

| Support for young people who have left full time education | | |
|---|---|---|
| Interviews by careers advisers at our centres. | 2,151 | 99% |
| Interviews by careers advisers with young people with a Statement of Special Educational Need. | 459 | N/A |
| Interviews by careers assistants. | 3,334 | 91% |
| Written outcomes of guidance. | 2,310 | 139% |
| Number of young people placed in Youth Gateway. | 524 | 95% |
| Number of young people placed into employment. | 286 | N/A |
| Number of young people placed into work-based training. | 1,542 | N/A |
| Interviews with young people on Youth Gateway. | 7,096 | 129% |
| Moving Forward Plans for young people on Youth Gateway. | 1,090 | 103% |
| Group sessions for young people on Youth Gateway. | 5,020 | 96% |

| Support for adults | | |
|---|---|---|
| Interviews by careers advisers | 6,346 | 110% |
| Of which:<br>Adults interviewed who were unemployed. | 1,833 | N/A |
| Adults interviewed under notice of redundancy, including those supported under ReAct. | 1,905 | N/A |
| Interviews by careers assistants. | 3,203 | 107% |
| Written outcomes of guidance. | 6,888 | 105% |
| Group sessions. | 85 | 106% |

Learning and Careers Advice national helpline 0800 100 900
Last year 31,028 calls and 598 emails to the helpline were received from across Wales.

| Working with employers | | |
|---|---|---|
| Visits to employers. | 1,494 | 127% |
| Job vacancies notified. | 434 | N/A |
| Employers supporting education business activities. | 3,789 | 148% |

Careers Wales is funded by the Welsh Government. The cost of our services for the year 1st April 2010-31st March 2011 was approximately £2.89 per month per household in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

**We value your opinions.** If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about our services please contact:

Avril Jackson, Marketing Manager, Careers Wales Cardiff and Vale, 53 Charles Street, Cardiff CF10 2GD Tel: 029 2090 6700 or email avril.jackson@cardiffandvale.org.uk

Gyrfa Cymru Careers Wales Caerdydd a'r Fro

Datblygu pobl drwy gynllunio gyrfa gydol oes

## Yr hyn a wnawn

**Mae Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro yn gyfrifol am ddarparu:**

- Y Gwasanaeth Gyrfaoedd statudol (Gwasanaethau Arweiniad Ieuenctid), Porth Ieuenctid a Porth Addysg
- Partneriaeth Addysg Busnes Caerdydd a'r Fro (PAB)
- Gwasanaethau Arweiniad Oedolion
- Llinell Gymorth Cyngor Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd yng Nghymru

# Gyrfa Cymru
# Yma i'ch helpu!

## Molly'n gwneud y symudiad gyrfa cywir

Molly Willis, yn y canol, prentis gweinyddu yn Cooke & Arkwright gyda Jane Shankland, cyfarwyddydd cyswllt y cwmni a Leon Patnett, rheolydd busnes di-addysg, Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro.

**Yn dilyn lleoliad blasu gwaith a drefnwyd gan Gyrfa Cymru a'r Fro, mae Molly Willis sy'n ddeunaw oed yn falch iawn i fod yn setlo mor dda yn ei swydd gyda chwmni proffil uchel yng Nghaerdydd.**

Gadawodd Molly Ysgol Gyfun Stanwell, Penarth ar ôl ei TGAU i ddilyn gyrfa mewn trin gwallt ond sylweddolodd yn fuan nad dyma'r hyn yr oedd eisiau.

Ar ôl gofyn am gyngor gan Gyrfa Cymru, trefnwyd cyfweliad ar gyfer lleoliad blasu gwaith i Molly gyda syrfewyr siartredig Cooke & Arkwright.

Mae'r cynllun yn rhoi cyfle i gyflogwyr asesu addasrwydd ymgeisydd dros ddwy wythnos cyn ymrwymo i gontract parhaol, tra bod yr ymgeisydd yn cael cyfle i ddangos ei sgiliau a photensial.

Ar ôl llwyddo i gael ei derbyn gan Cooke & Arkwright, aeth Molly o nerth i nerth ac mae'n awr yn dilyn prentisiaeth mewn gweinyddiaeth gyda'r cwmni.

**"Rwyf mor falch fy mod wedi cael y cyfle yma ac wrth fy modd yn fy swydd,"** meddai Molly.

**"Fe wnes sylweddoli nad oedd trin gwallt yn iawn i mi ond roeddwn angen arweiniad a dyna'n union yr hyn a gefais gan Gyrfa Cymru - fe wnes hyd yn oed dderbyn help i ddiweddaru fy CV a hefyd gyda sgiliau cyfweliad oedd mor ddefnyddiol. Yn ogystal â'r profiad rwy'n ei gael ar y swydd, rwy'n cael fy nghefnogi gan asesydd hyfforddiant o'r darparydd dysgu ACT."**

Ychwanegodd Jane Shankland o Cooke & Arkwright: **"Mae'n beth newydd i ni gymryd rhan yn y Cynllun Blasu Gwaith ond mae wedi gweithio allan mor dda gyda Molly.**

**"Mae'r syniad o flasu gwaith yn rhoi cyfle i bawb ganfod os yw pethau'n iawn ac rydym wrth ein bodd gyda chynnydd Molly."**

## Dileu swydd yn arwain at yrfa newydd

**Pan golloddd Paul Jones ei swydd yn 2009 ar ôl gweithio am ddeng mlynedd fel bricwr, ychydig yr oedd yn sylweddoli y byddai hynny'n rhoi cyfle iddo sicrhau gyrfa newydd fel hyfforddydd arbenigol yn y diwydiant diogelwch eiddo.**

Ar ôl i'w swydd gael ei dileu, cofrestrodd Paul gyda Chanolfan Byd Gwaith a chafodd wybod am ReAct, cynllun gan Lywodraeth Cymru i helpu oilhyfforddi unigolion sydd newydd golli eu swyddi. Cafodd hefyd ei gyfeirio at Gyrfa Cymru i drafod ei gynlluniau.

Roedd gan Paul ddiddordeb mewn gyrfa yn y diwydiant diogelwch eiddo a gwyddai fod angen iddo gael ei hyfforddi'n iawn a chael cymwysterau i gael gwaith. Hysbysodd y cynghorydd gyrfaoedd Phil Mason ef am gynsiau lleol oedd ar gael ac fel canlyniad gwnaeth Paul gais llwyddiannus i Primus Training and Consultancy.

Dywedodd Paul: **"Roedd Phil yn gefnogol iawn. Fe siaradodd am yr opsiynau oedd ar gael a rhoddodd yr wybodaeth roeddwn ei hangen i fy ngalluogi i benderfynu beth i'w wneud nesaf."**

Cwblhaodd Paul gwrs yn arwain at Drwydded Diogelu Eiddo yr Awdurdod Diwydiant Diogelwch Eiddo (SIA). Gwnaeth ei allu a'i frwdfrydedd gymaint o argraff ar

Paul Jones, sydd yn awr yn hyfforddydd gyda Primus Training yn dilyn newid gyrfa.

staff Primus Training fel iddo gael ei wahodd i wneud cais am swydd gyda'r cwmni i ddysgu bod yn hyfforddydd.

Ychwanegodd Paul: **"Cefais nifer o asesiadau trwyadl gyda Primus Training ac fe wnes hefyd weithio tuag at gymhwyster Paratoi i Addysgu yn y Sector Dysgu Gydol Oes (PTLLS) City and Guilds i fy ngalluogi i addysgu.**

**"Rwy'n awr yn addysgu nifer o gyrsiau a hefyd yn ymwneud â datblygu busnes i Primus Training. Rwyf hefyd yn gweithio'n rhan-amser i RAS Security i gynnal fy sgiliau ymarferol".**

## Edrych am gyngor ar ddysgu a gyrfaoedd?

Galwn helpu, beth bynnag yw'ch oedran neu sefyllfa - p'un ai ydych yn dal i fod yn yr ysgol neu goleg, yn ddi-waith, yn wynebu colli eich swydd, yn meddwl am eich swydd gyntaf neu newid gyrfa neu eisiau gwella eich rhagolygon yn eich swydd bresennol.

- Edrychwch ar ein gwefan **www.gyrfacymru.com** i gael gwybodaeth ar yrfaoedd, cynsiau, swyddi a hyfforddiant yn cynnwys prentisiaethau.
- Ffoniwch ein **llinell gymorth genedlaethol Cyngor Dysgu a Gyrfaoedd 0800 100 900**. Os ydych yn galw o ffôn symudol, ffoniwch 029 20290 6801 os gwelwch yn dda. Mae'r linellau ar agor rhwng 9am-9pm ar ddyddiau Llun-Gwener a 9am-12 canol-dydd ar ddyddiau Sadwrn. Mednwch hefyd anfon e-bost atom i **lca@careerswales.com**.
- Os hoffech siarad wyneb yn wyneb gyda chynghorydd mednwch alw heibio neu ffonio i wneud apwyntiad yn un o'n canolfannau.

**53 Heol Siarl, Caerdydd CF10 2GD** **Ffôn: 029 2090 6700**
**49 Heol Holton, Y Barri CF63 4HF** **Ffôn: 01446 410600**

- Gall pobl ifanc mewn addysg amser-llawn drefnu i weld eu cynghorydd gyrfaoedd yn eu hysgol neu goleg.

Grŵp o fyfyrwyr Blwyddyn 9 yn cymryd rhan yng Nghlwb Sadwrn Darganfod! yn cael mwy o wybodaeth am gymal a chadw awyrennau yn British Airways Maintenance Cardiff gydo'r peirianneg Gareth Davies.

# Ymestyn Clwb Sadwrn ar draws Cymru

**Cafodd menter gwnaed-yng-Nghymru i annog mwy o ferched i gymryd rhan mewn gwyddoniaeth a pheirianneg ganmolladwy uchel gan gorff gwobrwyo adnabyddus a chaiff ei ymestyn ar draws y wlad.**

Lansiwyd Clwb Sadwrn Darganfod! gan Bartneriaeth Addysg Busnes (PAB) Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro bedair blynedd yn ôl mewn cysylltiad â WISE (Menywod i Wyddoniaeth, Peirianneg ac Adeiladu) i annog merched ym Mlwyddyn 9 i ddilyn eu diddordeb mewn gwyddoniaeth, technoleg, peirianneg a mathemateg a rhoi cyfle iddynt ymchwilio cyfleoedd gyrfa nad oeddent efallai wedi'u hystyried o'r blaen. Mae'r clwb wedi cael cydnabyddiaeth ddwywaith yn rowndiau terfynol y Deymas Unedig ar gyfer Gwobrau Partneriaeth WISE a gynhelir yn Llundain.

Cynhaliwyd sesiynau eleni gan Brifysgol Caerdydd, BRASS (Canolfan Perthynas Busnes, Atebolrwydd, Cynaliadwyedd a Chymdeithas), RWE npower yng Ngorsaf Bŵer Aberddawan a British Airways Maintenance Cardiff. Yn dilyn eu llwyddiant, mae Gyrfa Cymru yn datblygu clybiau Darganfod! ledled Cymru.

## Gwelliannau i'n gwasanaeth

- Rydym yn adnewyddu ein Canolfan Gyrfaoedd yn 49 Heol Holton, Y Barri i roi mwy o ofod ar gyfer cyfweliadau a gwella'r ddarbynfa. Bydd Porth Ieuenctid yn y Fro hefyd yn seiliedig yno. Y gwaith yma yw rhan olaf ein cynllun i wella cyfleusterau i gwsmeriaid oedd yn cynnwys adnewyddu Porth Ieuenctid a'n Canolfan Gyrfaoedd yn Heol Siarl, Caerdydd.
- Rydym wedi datblygu ein systemau i reoli perfformiad ein staff, gan sicrhau'r gwasanaeth gorau posibl i'n cwsmeriaid.
- Mewn arolwg diweddar, dywedodd 96 % o fyfyrwyr Blwyddyn 11 (15 a 16 oed) a holwyd y bu eu cyfweliad gyda chynghorydd gyrfaoedd yn ddefnyddiol, eithaf defnyddiol neu'n ddefnyddiol iawn.

# Gweithio mewn partneriaeth @33

O'r chwith: Sharon Jones (Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Cwm Taf), Lisa Fryer (Porth Ieuenctid Gyrfa Cymru), Joe Payne (Llamau) a Steven Carroll (cymorth gweinyddiaeth).

**Mae gan Gyrfa Cymru ymrwymiad i weithio gyda sefydliadau allweddol eraill i wella cefnogaeth ar gyfer pobl ifanc 16- 18 oed nad ydynt mewn addysg, cyflogaeth na hyfforddiant ac mae wedi croesawu nifer o bartneriaid newydd yn ddiweddar i'w Ganolfan Porth Ieuenctid yn Heol Siarl, Caerdydd, a elwir yn awr yn @33, i ddatblygu'r dull gweithredu ami-asiantaeth yma.**

Mae cynghorwyr Porth Ieuenctid yn rhai arweiniad a chefnogaeth barhaus i helpu pobl ifanc i oresgyn rhwystrau sy'n eu hatal rhag cael mynediad i addysg, cyflogaeth neu hyfforddiant.

Mae tîm Hyfforddwyr Dysgu o gynghorwyr gyrfaoedd a gweithwyr ieuenctid, a ariannir gan Bartneriaeth Plant a Phobl Ifanc Caerdydd a Rhwydweithiau 14-19 Caerdydd a'r Fro, hefyd yn gweithio o'r ganolfan i helpu'r rhai yr ystyrir eu bod yr anoddaf eu cyrraedd.

Bydd y dull gweithredu ami-asiantaeth newydd hefyd yn galluogi pobl ifanc i gael mynediad i wasanaethau eraill i'w helpu i ddelio gyda phroblemau a all fod yn eu hwynebu wrth iddynt symud i fywyd fel oedolion a bywyd gwaith. Yn helpu i asesu'r deientiaid mwyaf bregus yn @33 bydd Gweithiwr Meddwl Iach o Wasanaethau Iechyd Meddwl Plant a'r Glasoed, Bwrdd Iechyd Lleol Cwm Taf a chynghorwyr o Action for Children.

Bydd Swyddogion Tai o Opsiynau Tai (Cyngor Caerdydd a Llamau) a gweithwr cymdeithasol o Wasanaethau Gofal Cymdeithasol Cyngor Caerdydd hefyd yn rhoi cyngor a chefnogaeth gan weithwyr cyfryngu a all asesu a chynghori pobl ifanc 16 a 17 oed sy'n ceisio help gydag ymholiadau am lety, gofal ac anghenion datblygu personol.

Mae cynghorwyr Gyrfa Cymru hefyd yn seiliedig gyda'r Gwasanaeth Troseddu Ieuenctid yng Nghaerdydd a'r Fro i helpu pobl ifanc sydd wedi troseddu.

## Gyrfa Cymru Careers Wales — Sut y gwnaethom yn 2010/11

| Cefnogaeth i fyfyrwyr mewn addysg uwchradd ac addysg bellach yng Nghaerdydd a Bro Morgannwg | | Cyf. lawnlad | % yn erbyn y targed |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cyfweliadau | | 16,129 | 120% |
| Cynlluniau Symud Ymlaen | | 11,420 | 104% |
| Sesiynau grŵp | | 1,733 | 94% |
| Pobl ifanc yn cymryd rhan yn Porth Addysg, ehaglen cynhelliant i rai 14-16 oed a phobl ifanc mewn coleg | | 693 | 109% |
| Pobl ifanc yn derbyn cefnogaeth mentora gan gynghorwyr Porth Addysg | Cyfweliadau<br>Sesiynau grŵp | 2,442<br>849 | 144%<br>98% |
| Gweith gydia phobl ifanc gydo Datganiad o Angen Addysgol Arbennig | Cyfweliadau<br>Adolygiadau Portio a fynychwyd<br>Cynlluniau Dysgu o Sgiliau<br>Sesiynau grŵp | 1,025<br>591<br>153<br>19 | 139%<br>104%<br>93%<br>119% |
| Pobl ifanc a dderbyniodd gefnogaeth ar gyfer gweithgareddau addysg busnes | Ysgolion cynradd<br>Ysgolion uwchradd | 17,558<br>29,134 | 130%<br>108% |
| Nifer lleoliadau profiad gwaith a drefnwyd | 14 - 16 oed<br>16 - 19 oed | 5,484<br>1,047 | D/G<br>D/G |
| Nifer pobl ifanc a gynnwydd ran mewn busnes a mentor | 12 - 16 oed<br>16 - 19 oed | 6,659<br>1,670 | D/G<br>D/G |
| Nifer pobl ifanc yn derbyn cefnogaeth cyflogwyr ar gyfer mentora a gosod nodau unigol. | | 1,078 | D/G |
| Nifer pobl ifanc yn ymwnead â sefydlu prosiectau busnes bach gydo chefnogaeth cyflogwyr | 12 - 16 oed<br>16 - 19 oed | 3,653<br>1,473 | D/G |
| Nifer pobl ifanc a gynnwydd ran mewn gweithgareddau cyflenwi/datblygu cwricwlwm a gefnogir gan cyflogwyr | | 17, 993 | D/G |

**Cefnogaeth i ysgolion a cholegau**

Mae Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro yn gweithio'n agos gydag athrawon a darlithwyr i sicrhau fod disgyblion a myfyrwyr yn derbyn addysg ac arweiniad gyrfaoedd safon uchel. Trefnwyd 41 digwyddiad hyfforddi yn ystod y flwyddyn yn cynnwys 110 o athrawon a staff cysylltiedig. Cafodd 381 o athrawon ysgolion cynradd ac uwchradd a darlithwyr coleg hefyd eu helpu i ganfod lleoliadau gydo chyflogwyr: 92% yn erbyn y targed.

| Cefnogaeth i rieni a gwarcheidwaid Cannu arolygon ma rhieni a gofalwyr yw'r dylanwad mwyaf ar benderfyniadau gyrfa eu plant. | | |
|---|---|---|
| Trafodaethau gyda rhieni | 1,257 | D/G |
| Nosweithiau rhieni a fynychwyd | 75 | D/G |
| Llythyrau at rieni mytynwyr yn mlynyddoedd 7, 9, 10, 11 a 12 | 23,175 | D/G |

| Cefnogaeth i bobl ifanc sydd wedi gadael addysg lawn-amser | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cyfweliadau gan gynghorwyr gyrfaoedd yn ein canolfannau | 2,151 | 99% |
| Cyfweliadau gan gynghorwyr gyrfaoedd gyda phobl ifanc gyda Datganiad o Angen Addysgol Arbennig | 459 | D/G |
| Cyfweliadau gan gynhorthwyr gyrfaoedd | 3,334 | 91% |
| Canlyniadau arweiniad ysgrifenedig | 2,310 | 139% |
| Nifer pobl ifanc a ddodwyd yn y Porth Ieuenctid | 524 | 95% |
| Nifer pobl ifanc a ddodwyd mewn cyflogaeth | 286 | D/G |
| Nifer pobl ifanc a ddodwyd mewn hyfforddiant unliedig ar waith | 1,542 | D/G |
| Cyfweliadau gyda phobl ifanc yn y Porth Ieuenctid | 7,096 | 129% |
| Cynlluniau Symud Ymlaen ar gyfer pobl ifanc yn y Porth Ieuenctid | 1,090 | 103% |
| Sesiynau grŵp ar gyfer pobl ifanc yn y Porth Ieuenctid | 5,020 | 96% |

| Cefnogaeth i oedolion | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cyfweliadau gan gynghorwyr gyrfaoedd | 6,346 | 110% |
| **Ohonynt:**<br>Cyfweliadau gydag oedolion di-waith | 1,833 | D/G |
| Cyfweliadau gydag oedolion o gafodd rybudd dilos swydd yn cynnwys rhai o gynorthwyir dan ReAct | 1,905 | D/G |
| Cyfweliadau gan gynhorthwyr gwybodaeth | 3,203 | 107% |
| Arweiniad ysgrifenedig ar ganlyniadau | 4,888 | 105% |
| Sesiynau grŵp | 85 | 106% |

**Llinell gymorth genedlaethol Cyngor Dysgu o Gyrfaoedd 0800 100 900**
**Y llynedd derbynodd y llinell gymorth 31,028 galwad ffôn a 598 negas e-bost, o bob rhan o Gymru**

| Gweithio gyda chyflogwyr | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ymweliadau i cyflogwyr | 1,494 | 127% |
| Swyddi gwag a hysbyswyd | 434 | D/G |
| Cyflogwyr yn cefnogi gweithgareddau addysg busnes | 3,789 | 149% |

Ariannir Gyrfa Cymru gan Lywodraeth Cymru. Roedd cost ein gwasanaethau am y flwyddyn 1 Ebrill 2010 - 31 Mawrth 2011 tua £2.89 y mis i bob oelwyd yng Nghaerdydd a Bro Morgannwg.

BUDDSODDWYR MEWN POBL

Wedi'i ariannu gan Lywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by Welsh Government

**Gwerthfawrogwn eich sylwadau.** Os oes gennych unrhyw gwestiynau, sylwadau neu awgrymiadau am ein gwasanaethau cysylltwch os gwelwch yn dda ag:

Avril Jackson, Rheolydd Marchnata, Gyrfa Cymru Caerdydd a'r Fro,
53 Heol Siarl, Caerdydd CF10 2GD Ffôn: 029 2090 6700
neu e-bost avril.jackson@cardiffandvale.org.uk.

# Out and About with The GEM

## Espionage thriller is a low-key delight that drips with tension

**SCREEN TALK**

**by GARETH JAMIESON**

*Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk*

**YOU can never be too careful in the world of espionage... double agents, threats on your life and henchmen with metallic teeth make it a dangerous line of work – and one that writer John Le Carre has successfully mined.**

It is his most notable work that makes its way onto the big screen in *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, which was already a huge success on BBC television in the late 1970s with Alec Guinness.

This time, Gary Oldman takes on the role of George Smiley, brought out of retirement to track down a mole in MI6, who threatens to destabilise the nation.

With the suspects lined up (including Colin Firth, Toby Jones and Ciaran Hinds), Smiley must undergo a game of cat and mouse where no-one is who they seem, and twists and turns are around every corner...

If *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* had the uphill task of attempting to live up to John Le Carre's original book, then it was a task made all the more difficult given that it would inevitably be compared to the 1979 TV mini-series starring Sir Alec Guinness as Smiley.

Despite this pressure, the 2011 version is something that more than holds up to both of these, and taken on its own terms is a low-key thriller that places tension and drama to the forefront, creating a film that barely lets up over its 127-minute running time.

It is marshalled with no little class by Tomas Alfredson, the Swedish director responsible for the wonderful vampire film *Let The Right One In*.

Here, Alfredson is dealing with those who are just as vampiric but without the bloodlust, the denizens of MI6 a cold, unforgiving bunch whose stillness in the eyes masks a sea of betrayals and double dealings, each character just another jellybean in the jar of espionage.

Much like his breakthrough effort, Alfredson shows he is a director who is happy to let the story take centre stage, his direction never overtly fancy but assured and clinical, from the mute colour patterns to the detatchment of the performances he wrings out of the skilled cast.

Given that this is a film more about bureaucracy then action sequences, Alfredson's calm eye provides the focus that allows Peter Straughan and Bridget O'Connor's screenplay to shine through.

Certainly, the pair have the most difficult job, having to condense Le Carre's prose into a cohesive two-hour film (even the miniseries had seven hours to do it in), but that they manage to do so with such efficiency is a testament to their skill.

Instead, very little is lost from the overall story, even if some characters do suffer from a degree of sidelining (in particular, those played by Kathy Burke and Ciaran Hinds) but the story is dense and rich enough to absorb this.

It also gives a cast that is more or less the cream of the British crop the opportunity to work on such superb material, and each actor thrives, delivering strong turns.

Top of these is Gary Oldman, whose support turns in the likes of the *Batman* and *Harry Potter* franchises has perhaps masked his ability to hold the attention as a leading man.

It is an ability that is all too much in evidence here, Oldman holding the screen rapt, his performance a tightly-coiled one that betrays little emotion, but is totally engaging.

He has rightly snared the majority of the plaudits, but there is no weak turn anywhere, with the likes of Colin Firth, Ciaran Hinds, David Dencik and Toby Jones doing their best 'is-he-or-isn't-he' as the suspected moles; while both Tom Hardy and Benedict Cumberbatch do their rising stars no damage at all with two wonderful turns.

The former is all brawn 'n' brains belying his tiredness while skulking around in the shadows doing the dirty work while the latter is a man caught up in a maze of skulduggery that impacts upon his private life.

Throw in another superb turn by the understated, and underrated, Mark Strong, along with the likes of John Hurt and Stephen Graham, and you have one of the finest ensemble casts of the year, and one that delivers in spades.

If there is any complaint to be made, then it is that the film's languid pace sometimes feels a little too languid, while the story is one that must be followed intently, else the big reveal comes off more as a damp squib.

However, those who want to see the best British talent excel in a rich and satisfying story should most certainly savour *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy.*

**VERDICT:** A tense and dramatic affair, *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* is a classy affair with some of the finest British actors working today in top form. Tomas Alfredson's direction is suitably muted and moody.

It all comes together to make for a truly outstanding cinematic effort.

*Essential viewing*.

**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Thirteen Days* (2000), *The Third Man* (1949), *The Quiet American* (2002).

## Ty Hafan winners

**THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D688.**

- **£2,000:** 679912.
- **£500:** No winner.
- **£10:** 394694, 137567, 433456, 671415, 195385, 316534, 684129, 557096, 662140, 509049, 876668, 156940, 278945, 416056, 214508, 470483, 887077, 479121, 606505, 211345.
- **£5:** 125091, 110497, 591327, 137692, 791120, 543427, 137741, 869842, 579977, 307247, 498664, 685166, 936978, 214184, 841628, 149387, 272737, 544196, 877119, 763573, 600893, 341163, 175829, 681857, 729683, 746247, 472681, 739339, 830346, 585873, 367756, 309117, 656548, 523283, 755644, 743393, 192225, 203552, 852230, 484439, 747488, 245311, 309244, 838733, 712758, 532916, 854509, 272971, 110011, 425629, 264760, 820947, 257507, 151688, 611392, 709109, 784802, 422037, 871545, 491480.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

*For lottery information, please telephone 02920 672062.*

## Welsh artists' work on show in Vale art gallery

**THE work of Welsh artists is being shown at an exhibition in Art Central gallery in Barry.**

**The touring exhibition, 'Express Yourself', has been created from submissions to the first ever Welsh libraries arts competition.**

**Over 1,600 entries were received covering a range of disciplines including creative writing, visual arts and short films. The theme for the competition was 'libraries'.**

**Chris Edwards, Vale principal librarian, said: "Local student Donna Thomas, from St Richard Gwyn High School, was chosen as the overall winner for the best piece of art work submitted from the Vale of Glamorgan.**

**"Her painting, entitled 'The Magic World of Books' was one of 60 art works entered into the competition by individuals and local groups.**

**"Donna's painting has returned to the Vale and is part of the exhibition, after over nine months of travelling around Wales."**

***'Express Yourself' runs at Art Central until October 1 and admission is free. Art Central is open Tuesdays to Saturday from 10am-4pm.***

## RUMMAGE SALE

**THERE will be a charity rummage sale at the church hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, on Saturday, September 24 (10am-11.30am).**

**Entry (50p) includes** *coffee and biscuits.*

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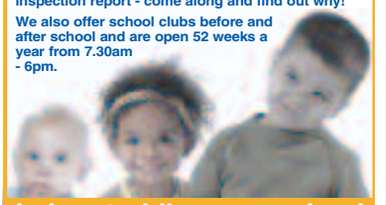

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# Skipper's hat-trick gives Llantwit Major reserves yet another three points!

**LLANTWIT MAJOR RESERVES 4**
**COGAN CORONATION RESERVES 2**

**LLANTWIT Major Reserves made it a hat-trick of wins on the bounce with an excellent victory over Cogan Coronation at Windmill Lane.**

The visitors took the lead with the first move of the match when the Cogan number 10 sent a free kick fizzing into the top corner to leave Llantwit 'keeper Jackson no chance. There had been a slight deflection off player-manager Dave Callard's head.

The next 30 minutes were dull, and Llantwit scored with their first real controlled attack. Dave Bevan and Lee Tracey linked well to release Tom Bevan down the left flank.

Bevan powered into the box and with the 'keeper and defender closing in the striker toe poked the ball into the net for his third of the campaign.

Llantwit now started to gain a foothold, and could have added two further goals in quick succession.

That said, parity at the interval was probably a fair reflection of a turgid affair.

Manager Grafton had a few choice words with his lethargic cohorts at the break, emphasising the importance of playing the ball on the floor while also raising the tempo of passing and movement.

There was an immediate improvement, and it was only a matter of time before the home team scored again, through captain for the day Stephen Phillips, who finished well after excellent work by substitute Gethin Jennings.

Phillips bagged his brace shortly after when a sinuous team move found the industrious Austin out wide. His splendid cutback was met perfectly by the big number 9 to smash home.

The home team now took their foot off the gas and started to lose a bit of shape which allowed Cogan to have their best spell of the match.

However the back four of Tracey, Grahame, Callard and Howles held the visitors at arms length, while keeper Jackson comfortably dealt with the long range efforts which were all the visitors could muster.

With 20 minutes remaining, a momentary lapse in concentration gave Cogan a lifeline. The Llantwit defensive wall took an eternity to line up and while they were doing so the striker curled the ball past Jackson.

More changes in personnel were made to liven things up. Substitutes Andy Gordon and Craig Bright gave Llantwit the spark of enthusiasm they needed.

The home team's fourth goal came with quarter of an hour remaining. Tom Bevan leapt at the far post to nod the ball into the path of Phillips and the outcome was a formality as the Llantwit striker rounded off the scoring as he secured a remarkable hat-trick.

Man of the match was deservedly awarded to Phillips for another lung-bursting display of running, accompanied by three fine goals.

*Llantwit: M Jackson, T Howles, D Callard, J Grahame, L Tracey, T Bevan, J Preece, D Bevan, S Phillips (captain), J Austin, D White. Subs: J Hartley, A Gordon, I Phillips, G Jennings, C Bright.*

**DC**

# Squash season makes a start

**A NEW season is about to start at Cowbridge Squash Club.**

A club spokesman said: "During the summer a lot of work has been done to bring the courts back to their usual high standard and this year, with new insulation, the club should be warmer than ever.

"The club will be hosting three men's teams, playing on Wednesdays and Thursdays from approx 7pm.

"Team matches have already started with the men's A Team on the trail of yet another promotion in the South Wales League.

"The junior section have also started playing and this proved very successful last year under the guidance Nial Sloan and Julie Clode, both fully-qualified level 2 Welsh SRA coaches.

"Juniors between the ages of seven to 15 are welcome to come along and try their hand at squash. Rackets are supplied by the club for new starters. Coaching is on Saturday morning between 10am and midday."

*For information on joining, or on renewing subscriptions, telephone Clive Prigg on 01446 773729.*

# WELSH BOWLS TEAM TRAINS IN RHOOSE

*The Welsh Atlantic Championship team are pictured with their manager, Hazel Wilson.*

**AS part of the final preparations for the Atlantic Championships in Cyprus and the European Games in Portugal, the Welsh Women's Bowling Association staged a successful training camp based at Rhoose Bowling Club on Saturday and Sunday.**

As well as practice sessions at both Rhoose BC and Sully IBC, players and officials benefited from informative presentations from the Sport Wales team.

Team manager Hazel Wilson, said: "The weekend was an excellent team building exercise for our two teams who are competing at top events in the next couple of months and we thank Rhoose Bowling Club for their welcome and hospitality."

**CH**

# Cowbridge Second XV have no bench to call on

**COWBRIDGE Second XV entertained Seaview Barry with a bare fifteen but took the game to the opposition.**

Good work by the pack delivered the ball to the backs and centre Aaron Glassar crossed for a try that outside-half Mike Lloyd converted.

Further pressure brought a penalty that Lloyd converted and a credible halftime score of 10-12.

In the second half, a couple of injuries and a strong showing by Seaview saw them run out winners by 10-35.

**THE youth team travelled to Cardiff HSOB and despite losing 26-0, showed plenty of potential and promise.**

It was 19-0 at half time so a good second half reduced HSOB to only one further try; a good first start from a young team.

**THIS Saturday, the First XV complete their September fixtures with a home game against Banwen, kick off 2.30pm, while the Seconds have a Saturday off.**

All support for the Banwen match would be much appreciated.

Team manager Dai Breed requests the return of the scissors from the medical bag. Please contact him to return them on 07896 997016 – no questions asked!

**RV/RK**

# Cowbridge under-9s impress in tournament

**AN unsettled day saw Cowbridge field two under-9 teams in the Llantwit Major tournament.**

Cowbridge Red team opened their campaign against Llantwit Major, who scored a quick first try.

However, Cowbridge showed a big improvement after the previous week, and Jake Williams levelled the scores just before the break.

Good pressure in defence and some ferocious tackling early in the second half resulted in a turnover. After a good period of attacking play, Cowbridge were awarded a penalty try after David Harris was double teamed after crossing the line.

Some excellent tackling and turnovers followed but there was no further score from either team.

Cowbridge Reds played Barry Gees and were caught napping again at the kick off, conceding an early try.

Cowbridge came back and went 2–1 up with tries by Oliver Jarmaine and Jake Williams.

Barry levelled just before the break. Jake crossed the line again in the second half, and Jack Riley made it 4–2 after good defence forced a turnover.

Barry scored but the final score was 4–3 to Cowbridge, putting them through to the semi-finals.

Cowbridge's orange team met Barry in their first pool game, drawing 3–3, with tries by Tom Johnson (two) and James Gilvear.

In their next two games, however, the team played a strong Penarth side, and also the eventual winners, Llanishen.

Against Penarth, Cowbridge seemed a little too eager to offload the ball allowing the Penarth team to run in five tries.

Against Llanishen, they were outplayed in the first half and, facing a 3 – 0 score line, a gutsy performance at the start of the second half saw them open the scoring with an excellent try from Jay Downes.

The team competed better in the second half, but were unable to stop Llanishen from scoring two further tries.

Cowbridge Reds played Penarth, and fared no better than the orange team. There were differing interpretations of the restart, and Penarth eventually ran out winners by 5–1. Charlie Locke scored the Cowbridge try.

*Squads: Cowbridge Red: Ioan Davies, David Harris, Harri Howkins, Oliver Jarmaine, Aled Leitch, Charlie Locke, Jack Riley, Harry Whittaker, Dewi Williams and Jake Williams.*

*Cowbridge Orange: Iwan-Thomas Bartle, Jay Downes, James Gilvear, Matthew Gilvear, Robbie Hawkins, Ellis Howell, Tom Johnson, McKinley Parsons, Tom Pugh and Rhys Williams.*

**GW**

# Trophy goes to bowler Jo

**THE ladies' section of Rhoose Bowling Club concluded their competitions recently with their Millennium Plate Competition.**

After three hours of bowling, the semi-final stage saw captain Anita Shears face Mary Thomas, and Jo Hopkins face Sue Dance.

In her match, Anita built up a lead of three shots by the eighth end. Then Mary won the next four ends to level the match at seven each.

Mary took the lead 9–8 on the 14th end but it was Anita who scored two shots on the final end to win by a single shot.

In the other semi, Jo Hopkins led by 10–4 by the ninth end. Sue fought back and by the 14th was just one shot behind. The final end saw Jo secure a maximum two shots to win by 14–11.

In the final, the match swung back and forth. By the 12th end, Jo led by 9–6. Anita scored one on the next end but Jo then secured the two she needed for victory, winning by 10–7.

Phil Watts presented the shield to Jo because it was his late wife Ruth who had presented the shield to the Club.

# West End make a good start to season

**CODEWORKS Westend Netball Club's two teams played their first games in the Cardiff League at Sophia Gardens.**

Both teams got off to a flying start, taking the lead early on. Westend 2 played Finance Wales and played really well, but were unfortunately beaten in the last few minutes, with a final score of 23-24.

Westend 1 took on Llanrumney Incredibles and led each quarter for a final score of Westend 1 39, Llanrumney Incredibles 16

On Monday, September 19, Westend 2 had their second game and, while the score was tight through each quarter, they manage to intercept the last few centre passes and took the game.

Final score: Westend 2 24, Llanrumney

## What makes your local pub great?

***Tell us, and your local could win a fantastic prize!***

It has been well publicised that several pubs are closing in Wales every week - happily that is not the case in the Vale; in fact, many establishments are reporting record business levels.

To celebrate some of the excellent family-owned, or run Vale pubs, The GEM is looking for regular customers to vote for their favourite in our new 'Prize Pub' competition feature.

***Prize…***

A 12 month advertising campaign in The GEM and on-line, worth more than **£5,000.** The competition will run during September and the winner will be announced in October.

***Criteria to consider***

*Scores on the doors (Vale hygiene awards)*
*Food (Home cooked/organic produce)*
*Drinks (Alcohol & quality coffees & teas)*
*Disability access*
*Child activities/entertainment/meals*
*Friendliness of staff/welcome*
*Garden/outdoor appearances/flower baskets etc*
*Innovation & Diversity - new ideas, i.e. offering a take-away service*
*Standards of toilets and general cleanliness*
*Parking/cab service (will they call one for you?)*
*Music/Guest entertainers*
*Interiors/Christmas decorations*
*Community involvement and charity support*
*Green credentials, eg: commitment to recycling of food waste, rain water for watering plants, etc.*

***What to do next…***

Enter by email or post – closing date is Friday, 30th September, 2011.
You must supply your name, address and land-line telephone number.
Tell us, in no more than 100 words, why you believe your local is the best.
State the name of the landlord/landlady, pub name and location, and how often you visit.
Send your entries, marked 'Prize Pub' to: **The GEM, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge, CF71 7EL** or email: **gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk**

***Terms & Conditions***

***The five pubs that receive the most entries will be visited by a mystery diner/judge, whereupon the winner will be decided. The winner will be announced in The GEM in October. No correspondence concerning the decision will be entered into. The judge's decision is final.***

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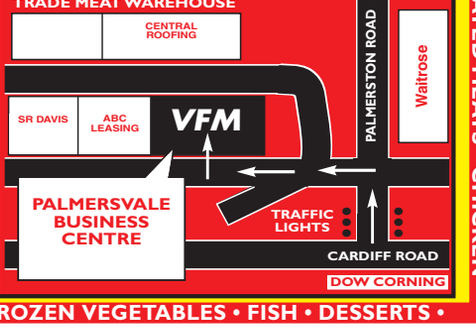


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# The Saints come out on top in a 10-goal thriller – *well, they did get nine!*

**Bridgend & District Sunday League Premier Division**
**SUNDAY SAINTS FC 9**
**TONYREFAIL WANDERERS 1**

**IT was last season's Division One champions against the Premier League champions and Saints ran riot as they dominated the match from start to finish.**

Saints turned on the style as goals from Jordan Mortimore, James Austin, a brace each from Dean Cleave and Scott Stretton and a hat-trick from Phil Morgan saw Saints decimate the champions.

Saints opened the scoring in the first few minutes as Mortimore laid the ball to Morgan to fire home.

They doubled their lead in style as Alan Lawson's throw to Mortimore's feet saw the Saints' talisman turn and fire an unstoppable 25 yarder into the net.

The home side made it three when Gareth Richards' big boot up field was touched on by Morgan into the path of Austin and his pinpoint cross found Cleave unmarked for the midfielder to power the ball home with his head.

Saints re-emerged for the second period still hungry for goals and Morgan knocked in his second when he steered Austin's cross off the post and tapped in his own rebound.

Mortimore dropped deeper and was pulling the strings with Tony Charles, and they combined to play in Austin, who raced through to fire past the keeper – and Saints had five.

Saints were unstoppable now and TJ Bowring powered through a challenge and fed Cleave, who broke the offside trap and calmly finished low across the keeper for his second, and Saints' sixth.

Saints made it seven after a great team goal. Charles exchanged passes with Cleave before finding Mortimore, who in turn slipped the ball through to Austin, who squared it for Morgan to side foot home and complete his hat-trick.

Tonyrefail had a rare foray forward and after clearing their lines initially, Saints switched off and the Ton midfielder raced through to fire in, despite Richards best efforts.

Saints combined well in the centre of the park and Charles pinged a great diagonal ball for Austin to take in his stride, and he crossed for Morgan, who saw his shot blocked, but sub Stretton tapped in for a goal on his debut.

Saints allowed Richards out as he traded places with full back and unofficial number two Reece Lewis.

Richards exchanged a one two with Mortimore and raced away down the flank, into the area and forced the keeper into a good stop from close range.

Saints completed the scoring as Mortimore's cross was knocked down by Richards and Stretton cut onto his left to fire the ball into the net for his brace.

Saints really turned on the style here and dominated from whistle to whistle. They played fantastic football as they put last seasons champions to the sword to send a clear message to the rest of the league.

Honourable mentions to Jordan Mortimore and James Austin but man of the match was Phil Morgan.

League leaders Saints are home again this week as they face combative Coedely, 11am kick off.

Many thanks to Lafarge Cement (Aberthaw Works), The Kinsale Stone Company (Wales) Ltd for sponsorship of the team and to Roy and Cyndy at the Four Bells, St Athan for their continued support of the team in this new season.

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTS REPORT

# Fine win for the first XV over local rivals Brynteg

**THE school senior rugby XV got the league campaign off to a flying start with a well-deserved 20-10 victory away to Brynteg.**

The school were able to field a strong team and captain Gus Rees McPherson led by example as the forwards dominated a strong Brynteg pack in the early exchanges.

Half-backs Chris Brace and Rhys Griffin controlled the game well, and wing Freddie Harries opened the scoring after some fast hands from the Cowbridge backline.

Full-back Charlie Morris was outstanding throughout the game and made several match-winning tackles as Brynteg looked to press.

Second row Tom Cunnington scored a well-deserved try after an impressive catch and drive from the lineout.

Christian Roberts-Walters kicked some key penalties and conversions as Cowbridge built a comfortable lead.

Brynteg fought back well and scored some vital points, but with the arrival of Ollie Hitchings for the second half, the win for Cowbridge always looked safe.

Congratulations go to Lloyd Stock, Will Johnson, Alex Kurabasa, Adam Roscrow, Freddie Harries, Chris Brace, Cameron O'Sullivan, James Griffiths, Tom Cunnington and Dillon Morgan, who were all making debuts for the senior school.

## Success for Kamal brothers at Welsh Championships

**A WEEK of wonderful weather greeted the Welsh Championships as the tournament began a new era in a new venue – Cardiff Castle Tennis Club.**

There was success for Cowbridge pupil Tomos Kamal, as he claimed both the 16-and-under singles and 16-and-under doubles titles.

It was by no means an easy week for Tomos having to be-at numerous players ranked within the top five in Wales.

The biggest test undoubtedly came in the final of the singles, where Tom had to play his younger brother Matthew – the first time in the championship's history that two brothers had met in the final.

The match was well-contested, with both players trading skillful and punishing shots early on.

It was Matthew who came off the better of the two in the early exchanges.

However, it was Tom's experience and fitness that provided the important difference between the two, as he went on to win the first set 6-3.

Having previously played in the 14-and-under final just two hours earlier, Matthew was finding it difficult to deal with the strength and fitness levels of older brother Tom.

The match finished 6-3, 6-1 and speaking after the match, Tom said: "It was great to get the win, but obviously it's always going to be tough when you're playing your brother.

"I'm just pleased to come through it".

Tom then went on to win the 16-and-under doubles title with partner Simon Pritchard, taking Tom's Welsh championship title tally to four.

The championships were played in a wonderful spirit and it was great to see players of all ages and abilities participating.

## Hockey team make a winning start

**COWBRIDGE senior hockey team played their first game of the season against Bro Morgannwg.**

At half time, it was 1-0 with a goal scored by Welsh superstar Katie Howson, and although there were plenty of opportunities, no more came in the first half.

In the second half, the goals started rolling, first from a short corner which Katie Howson took and Rachel Bradshaw received. She passed to Laura Smith, who scored her first goal for the senior squad.

Katie Howson went on to score two more goals, making a hat-trick for her. Rachel Bradshaw, another Welsh hockey player, scored two great goals, and sweeper Bethan Moorcroft came up from defence to score, making it 7-0 to Cowbridge.

The aim this season is to win the county tournament, so a good start, with Llanishen and Glantaf Schools providing tough competition in coming weeks.

# Trainer Evan says Dai's comments 'are extreme'

**ON AND OFF THE TURF with Brian Lee**

**FFOS LAS Racecourse founder Dai Walters has threatened to close Britain's newest track in 80 years – it opened in June 2009 – unless the venue is granted the number of fixtures that he considers economically viable.**

He has also said that he would sell all the horses he has in training if he doesn't get his own way.

The trouble is, the British Horseracing Authority has made a decision to cap the 2012 fixture list to 1,400 meetings, which is a reduction of around 80 fixtures, as it is thought there are already too many meetings attracting small fields.

Llancarfan trainer Evan Williams, who has gone down in turf history as the first trainer to saddle a winner at Ffos Las, told The Racing Post that Walters' comments are "extreme and not doing racing any good."

Evan is full of praise for Ffos Las, but he said "Everyone has to be realistic and cuts have to be made somewhere.

"I think Dai has to look at the bigger picture, and there are plenty of other tracks."

Aberthin trainer Tim Vaughan said: "In fairness to Dai, if you've spent the amount of money he has on the racetrack you are likely to be annoyed, and he'd have certainly hoped for a bigger share of fixtures.

"Ffos Las has had an absolutely massive impact on racing in Wales. It really has opened the floodgates to racing in Wales, attracting new owners and racegoers.'

He added: "It offers good prize money, and I think it deserves fixtures. It's a very good course all round."

Regular Ffos Las racegoer Emlyn Williams, told me: "I think there are already too many meetings at Ffos Las.

"The fields are small and the racing is uncompetitive."

# The under-11s' unbeaten record is still in one piece

**IN atrocious conditions, Cowbridge under-11s played their first home game of the season, hosting Tondu.**

Players and parents alike showed great resilience against the elements. This was the first time the boys had played on the bigger pitch, which favoured Cowbridge's open style of rugby.

The first half saw Cowbridge score six unanswered tries, with Ben Jones completing a hat-trick, and Luke, Cameron and Barny joining him on the score board.

Despite the deficit Tondu continued to tackle strongly to hold off waves of Cowbridge attacks.

The second half was a more even affair, with some brief sunshine which helped with handling skills.

Barny completed his hat-trick of tries, Ben added another, and new boys Ruben and Benji marked their débuts with individual tries.

Tondu breached the Cowbridge defence twice with some strong forward play. Overall, it was another good performance by the boys, and maintains their unbeaten record.

**Final score: Cowbridge 55 – Tondu 10.**

**SW**

**LLANTWIT MAJOR JUNIOR FOOTBALL ROUND-UP**

# Under-12 A team sets the pace with another win

**THE under-12 A team are the early pace setters in their division and have won all five fixtures this season.**

They won two matches during last week: On Monday, they beat Barry Celts A 8-0 at Barry Sports Centre, with Lewis Brown (two), Angus Mitchell (two), Luke Beattie, Cole Baker, Morgan Gore and Moses Gee, the goalscorers.

On Saturday, they beat Cogan Coronation 7-1 at Windmill Lane, with Morgan Gore notching a hat-trick. Sam Snaith (two) and Luke Beattie (two) completed their tally and put Llantwit clear on top of the league.

**AFTER their excellent start to the season, the under-13 A lost twice in the last seven days.**

On Monday, they lost 3-2 against Cadoxton Imps B – then at the weekend, they again lost 5-3 against Cogan Coronation at Windmill Lane. Llantwit's goalscorers were Josh Moran, Rhys Bevan and Shaun Davies.

**IT was mixed fortunes for the under-13 B, who put up an excellent performance midweek in a 2-2 draw against Cowbridge Town A, with well-taken goals from Otto Guwy and Dan Vickers.**

On Saturday, they found Sully Sports A far too strong, and lost 6-0 to their hosts.

**THE under-14 side had another easy home win against Cowbridge Town at Windmill Lane.**

In a high-scoring match, Gabriel Oram, Richard Stephens and Kyle Henderson were the Llantwit goalscorers.

**TOM RAWLINGS gave a man-of-the-match performance for the under-15 side at Cogan Coronation, but he could do little to stop Cogan registering a 7-0 victory.**

**BOTH Edward Howley and Tom Russell notched hat-tricks and Chris Blatchford scored the other in the under-16 team's 7-0 home win against Cowbridge Town.**

# Barry boys teach Llantwit a lesson in wet weather play

**LLANTWIT Major's new look under-14s team travelled to Barry for their first pre-season fixture, one which was always going to be a hard start for the boys.**

Despite putting up a brave display in the wet, they came off second best to a well-drilled and skillful Barry team, who enjoyed picking up several soft scores off Llantwit's basic errors.

Despite the result, the coaching team were delighted with the heart and commitment shown by the team and will look to build on the many positives in the display.

The lineout functioned superbly, with Max Croucher and Toby Walker securing almost all their own ball and disrupting several of the home team's throw-ins.

The scrum took time to settle and some timing problems led to several scrums being turned over by the powerful Barry eight.

Behind the pack, Owen Jauncey and Charlie Neale sniped for openings which were quickly closed by the well-organised defence.

The backs were well marshalled by Iestyn Jones at 10, who spent most of the game with the Barry back row for company.

The centre pairing of captain Joe Bunt and Steffen Godwin tackled themselves to a standstill. The lack of clean ball gave the back three of Alex Hill, Rhodri Miskin and Todd Oldfield little opportunity to show their pace, but again they tackled manfully all game.

Player of the match for Llantwit was prop forward Dan Richards, who formed the cornerstone of a brave effort in a beaten pack.

The coaching team would like to thank the parents for their wonderful support on the road.

**TJ**

# Under-12s play bright rugby in bad conditions

**THE first home game of the season saw Cowbridge under-12s host Tondu, with both sides playing their part in an entertaining game, despite the wet conditions.**

Cowbridge scored straight from the kick-off after quick ruck ball resulted in some slick passing out to wing Harrison Ashby, who ran from his own 22 metre area. to score the opening try beneath the posts. Morgan Gore converted.

Scrum half Ioan Lewis took a quick tap-penalty and swift handling set Harrison Ashby free again to round his opponent and score his second.

The next try came as a result of a determined drive from William Davies and great support work from Jac Roberts and Sam Corkill. The ball was released to the back-line with full back Evan Williams wriggling and twisting his way through to score. Morgan Gore added the conversion for a 19 – 0 half-time lead.

The second half saw the introduction of the remaining squad members. A long run by the Tondu right wing nearly resulted in a try, only to be thwarted by a superb tackle by outside half Rhys Bradshaw.

Cowbridge came back, but the backs were missing the substituted Max Cunnington, whose direct running had broken through several times in the first half.

There was too much lateral running and two try-scoring opportunities were squandered when there were three-to-one overlaps!

The backs did better when quick passing set the elusive Evan Williams away, and his mesmerising run took play into the Tondu danger zone.

The visitors tried to run the ball but a great tackle from Rhys Bradshaw, and swift turnover ball, resulted in the dynamic Dylan Cottle scoring a well-earned try. Morgan Gore added the conversion for a final score of 26 – 5.

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## Births

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**All our love Mum & Dad and cousin Dylan in Aus. xxx**

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# GEM Family Notices

## Alan Merrick

*Liz, Kath and Amanda wish to thank all relatives and friends for their kind messages of sympathy, attendance at the funeral service and donations given in memory of Alan to Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Lymphoma Association.*
*A special thanks to the District Nurses, and also the Staff at the Haematology Day Centre and Ward B4 at the Heath Hospital.*

## ROBERTS
### Mel

Peacefully on 16th September in Morriston Hospital. Mel aged 56 years of Llantwit Major. Beloved husband of Gaynor. Dearly loved dad to Sheryl and Barrie. Father in law to Mark and Sam, devoted Taido to Shannon, Nathan, Reece, Tomos, Sophie and Mya. A much loved son to Bob and the late Marian and a loving brother to Liz and Glyn. Mel will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium (where all please meet) on Tuesday 27th September at 10·30am. Family flowers only please, but donations (Cheques only) for Cardiac I.T.U Endowment Fund (at Morriston Hospital) may be given to the Funeral Director. All enquiries to W A Brown and Son, Llantwit Major 01446 792489.

## OSTERBERG
### Doreen

On 15th September 2011, Doreen aged 81 years of Llantwit Major, passed away in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. Beloved wife of Ray, dearly loved mother of Karen, mother in law of Ross, a devoted Nana to Charley and a much loved sister to Alan and Robby. Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Thursday 22nd September at 2·45pm (Where all please meet). Flowers may be sent to the funeral home or if wished donations for The Blue Cross (an animal charity) may be sent to the Funeral Director (Cheques only please). All enquiries to W A Brown & Son Pembroke House, College Street, Llantwit Major, CF61 1SG. 01446 792489.

## JONES, Paul

Tragically on 15th September, Paul of Llantwit Major (In2Net Wales). Beloved partner to Julie, and a much loved dad to Tomos. Much loved son of Lyndon and Linda, a loving brother to Allyson. Paul will be greatly missed by all his loving family and many friends.

**Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, 26th September at 10am (all meet here please).**

Family flowers only. If wished donations may be sent to either Scope or Cancer Research UK.

All enquiries to W. A. Brown & Son, Llantwit Major. 01446 792489.

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## Merfina Bartlett

*Mark & Rhian wish to thank friends & family for their support & generous donations to Ty Hafan in memory of their dear Mum.*

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## Public Notice

### THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

**Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990. Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.**

**Development that may affect a Conservation Area**
**Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth**

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00870/FUL
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** Remove a 4 metre wide section of an 1850 to 2150 mm high solid brick wall, and replace with solid gates approximately 1800 mm high - painted white to match existing boundary wall.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** 16, Heol St. Cattwg, Pendoylan, Cowbridge.
**Conservation Area:/Ardal Gadwraeth:** Pendoylan.

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00879/FUL
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** Change of use to reinstate vacant Family Centre back to residential use.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** 14, Albert Crescent, Penarth.
**Conservation Area:/Ardal Gadwraeth:** Penarth.

**Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig**

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00785/LBC
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** Addition of Solar Photovoltaic Panels.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** 4, Little Orchard, Dinas Powys.
**Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig:** Grade II.

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00905/LBC
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** Installation of 3.87KW photovolataic array.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** Gwyn House, 56, Eastgate, Cowbridge.
**Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig:** Grade II.

**Application(s) of General Interest**
**Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol**

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00887/RES
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** The plot substitution of Plots 1,2, 20, 21, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 53, 66 and 67 for alternative houses types.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** Land to the East of Pencoedtre Lane, Barry.

**May affect a Public Right of Way**
**Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus**

**Application No:/Rhif y cais:** 2011/00887/RES
**Proposal:/Cynnig:** The plot substitution of Plots 1,2, 20, 21, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 53, 66 and 67 for alternative houses types.
**Location:/Lleoliad:** Land to the East of Pencoedtre Lane, Barry.

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy.
**Dated / Dyddiedig:** 22 September, 2011.

Rob Thomas, Head of Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4R.

# Sea View are in command

| | |
|---|---|
| **Cowbridge RFC Second XV** | **10** |
| **Sea View RFC** | **33** |

**SATURDAY saw Sea View's first away league fixture of the season, venturing into the depths of the Vale with a visit to Cowbridge.**

With both the Ravens and the Second XV matches called off, the View took the field in front of a large and vocal crowd, well and truly outnumbering the home crowd.

Cowbridge took the lead with a converted try and a penalty and, but for some sterling defensive work from the View, the lead could have been larger.

The View dug in and a series of drives from the back row of O'Connell, Ford and Azzopardi drove the Islanders into the Cowbridge half.

Early injuries saw a reshuffle of the View back line, Chris Brown replacing the injured Bussy.

With James Braithwaite controlling things at half back, a deft pass set Joe Maytum on a drive for the line.

Cowbridge gave away a penalty, and after a quick tap and go, scrum half Reth Davies darted over the line to score by the post. Impatience to get on with the game led to the conversion being missed.

From the kick-off the View attacked and substitute Chris Brown broke through to score under the posts. Making up for his earlier miss, Jake Williams slotted the conversion to give the View the lead 10-12 at half-time.

They extended their lead when Leon Ford stormed through to score under the posts.

Cowbridge fought back but were unable to cope with the sustained pressure from the View forwards.

The front row of Matt James, Nathan Pearson and Matt Stanger had immense games in the loose, the second row of Maytum and Lowes continually drove over the gain line to produce a platform for the View backs, and deft runs from Josh Barker and Tom Martin began to tell.

Another View attack saw Jake Williams, despite being tackled by two Cowbridge players, pass to Tom Martin, who blazed over the line for the View's fourth try.

Late on, Nathan Harding took a lovely pass from Matt O'Connell, drew the defence and popped the ball out for Jake Williams to storm over for a fifth and final try. **Final score 10-33.**

But for the teeming rain resulting in handling errors, Sea View could have scored several more tries. Our thanks to Cowbridge for their post match hospitality and to our travelling support!

*This week the View are at home to Sully Sports RFC, kick off 2.30pm.*

**MV**

# Pumas are in confident mood

**BARRY Pumas FC faced Acme Revolution for the second consecutive week, but this time it was a matter of getting ponts in Lazarou Division Two.**

After last week's 5-1 cup victory, Pumas were feeling confident and they had every right to be when they went 1-0 up after 15 minutes.

Anthony King's cross found the head of Brian Gillen to put the Pumas into the lead, but Revolution replied quickly to level the scores.

Pumas went into the break 2-1 up when Chris Scott scored from close range just before the half-time whistle.

Both teams had their chances in the second half but it was the Barry team who made them count.

Matthew Davie scored after a marauding run and Scott added his second when he placed the ball into the corner of the net from the edge of the 18-yard box for a final score of 4-1.

**MORGAN STEPHENS**

# Lord's Taverners swing by Porthcawl

**THE Lord's Taverners Wales Region is getting in the swing for its annual Ian Spratling Memorial Golf Day, hoping to raise thousands of pounds to help children with special needs get involved in sport.**

This year's event, which takes place at The Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on September 29, will see Tregib Comprehensive School presented with a wheelchair accessible minibus by Taverners Wales region chairman, Ed Meggitt.

As well as specially adapted minibuses, the Lord's Taverners donates all kinds of sporting equipment to disadvantaged youngsters.

*For more information, visit www.lordstaverners.org/local-region/wales*

# LLANTWIT WITHIN A FINGERTIP OF GAINING SEASON'S FIRST WIN

**AFTER a 42-0 trouncing at Nantymoel in their division four South-East opener, Llantwit needed a good display to steady the ship, and the response was a very entertaining, committed and determined performance which could and should have led to a home win.**

Llantwit fielded a young looking side with only three players in the starting line-up over 22 years of age, but you would not have believed it as they made a confident start down the slope.

Against the run of play, the visitors took a 3-0 lead through a penalty, but Llantwit responded with an excellent blind side move out of defence, sparked by scrum-half Ryan Evans, who set left wing Marcus Pearce on a 50-metre run, only to be denied by a good last-ditch tackle.

With forwards and backs combining well, Llantwit took the game to the visitors and flanker Blaine Thomas, No 8 Rob Carter and scrum half Ryan Evans were prominent in opening up the defence for wing Pearce to show excellent finishing, popping up in midfield before racing through for a try converted by fly-half Chris Fowler.

On the half hour, Llantwit increased their lead with a big scrum shove, allowing Evans and Carter to work the blindside for wing Nathan Hooson to cross in the corner.

Fowler converted with an excellent kick from the touchline to make it 14-3.

Llantwit's display was far better than the opening week, with great tackling, good support play and excellent chasing of kicks and you could see their confidence grow, but just before half time, after a period of sustained pressure, Llantwit conceded a converted try.

However, a penalty with the last kick of the half from the boot of Fowler saw Llantwit turn around 17-10 up.

Llantwit began the second half well, with Blaine Thomas continuing to excel in the line-out and Fowler kicking well to the corner.

Llantwit got into good positions, but often fell foul of the referee to concede penalties, and were unable to sustain the pressure.

Llandaff reduced the deficit to 17-13, with a penalty 15 minutes into the second half.

Marcus Pearce made a couple of strong runs out of defence to really stretch the visitors but Llandaff North, relegated from division three last season, were quick to seize on any advantage and counter-attacked well.

When Carter was sin binned with just over 10 minutes to go, the visitors put on a vice-like grip to grind out a good try after a dozen or more phases of play, with the conversion giving them a 20-17 lead.

It was now a hard ask for Llantwit, but the brilliant Pearce made a lovely break up the left-hand touchline, supported by forwards Carl Watts and stand in skipper Dan Daw.

Unfortunately, Daw could only get fingertips to Pearce's inside pass out of the tackle, and Llandaff played good advantage to work their way downfield and earn a penalty, which killed off Llantwit's hopes.

Nevertheless, this was a great display by Llantwit with impressive prop Liam Griffin putting in a man-of-the match display in his first game for 18 months.

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This model has carried over into vehicle manufacturing, too.

One proponent of this theory is Seat, the Spanish car manufacturer.

For the past 60 years it has made a name for itself by altering the designs of its owners, which have included Fiat and since 1986, Volkswagen.

Where I have always thought of VWs as clinical, characterless and a bit run-of-the- mill, Seat is a complete contrast.

'Quirky' is a word that instantly springs to mind when confronted by the Seat Leon SE Copa 1.6 TDi DSG-auto. Seat's design department has considered all the rather dull and mundane parts of a car and somehow made them objects of fascination.

For instance, the distinctive S logo (which is reminiscent of a road to look at) on the boot doubles up as a handle. Push the top and the bottom half protrudes making a convenient lip for your hand to lift the boot open. A neat touch.

This five-door model is deceptive because it looks like a three-door – the rear door handles have been concealed. Seat hasn't just blindly followed Honda and Alfa either (who do the same), because it has actually moulded and curved the glass by the rear doors so that a hand snuggly fits behind the door handle. It's hard not to keep touching this as it's so appealing.

Where traditional windscreen wipers sit at the bottom of the screen and move from left to right, the Seat's reside at the left and right of the windscreen working their way downwards and then back up.

On the rear window, the washer for the wiper sprays water upwards rather than downwards as is usually the way.

It just goes to show that there are always two ways of looking at things in life and I must say that the Spanish way is very refreshing.

The vehicle's exterior is eye-catching thanks to its sweeping curves and large chrome and black front grille. All really impressive stuff that is instantly noticeable compared to other cars on the road.

Underneath, the Leon, which was first introduced in 2005, is basically a VW Golf. It shares the same 1.6TDi engine, which very pleasingly delivers over 60mpg (combined). Coupled to a smooth automatic gearbox the Seat is a delight to drive with the extra oomph needed for overtaking, helped by its sports mode function.

It is very rare for a car to benefit from both power and economy. There is a slight delay when you put your foot down and a muffled engine noise can be heard from inside the cabin on start-up but this quickly vanishes. Overall it's an impressive 1.6 diesel.

The only minor irritation is the cruise control, which is on the left stalk of the steering wheel where the indicators are located. If the driver is too keen to press the cruise control they can set the indicators off. It might have been better situated on the actual steering wheel as some manufacturers like Mitsubishi do.

Blacked out rear windows add a hint of the cool factor. The boot is a reasonable size – large enough for my daughter's cumbersome pushchair.

Parkers, the car guide, says: "Seat has a reputation for producing sporty cars based on reliable Volkswagen components and the Leon shows the company at its best. The sporty styling is reflected in the handling - the Leon is sharp, precise and great fun to drive. In 2009 the Leon was revised with subtle exterior changes, a more sophisticated interior and new engines. There are also Ecomotive models, some of which qualify for free road tax."

All in all, the Seat Leon is a fantastic package. Seat recognises the importance of differentiating itself from its competitors, and for this it scores very highly indeed. It's not often that I test drive a car and think I could happily own it.

New price range £14,635 - £19,225 (Copa); Used price range £3,664 - £14,652.

Top speed: 115mph; 0-60mph: 11.7secs; Fuel consumption (combined): 60.1mpg.

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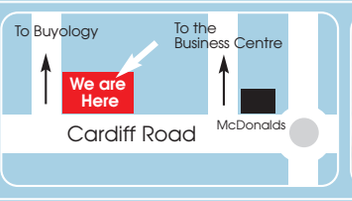

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# GEM sport

# Wales prove a point against Samoa, now they must finally start *believing*!

## BACK PAGE COMMENT
by Don John

**DESPITE the confident noises emanating from the Welsh camp, there was no disguising the underlying tension in the days before their crucial World Cup clash with old nemesis Samoa in Hamilton, at the weekend.**

"*We must win on Sunday, it's the bottom line... There are no second chances after Sunday... It's that important to us*," **head coach Warren Gatland repeatedly warned.**

**Yes, they had been "very disappointed" at the 16-17 loss to world champions South Africa the week before, a game they knew they should have won, but Gatland added: "***We could not fault the effort, passion and commitment (against the Springboks) and we have simply told the players we are looking for the same again against Samoa***…"**

**The anxiety shared by the travelling Welsh supporters, as well as the rest of us watching on television back home, was understandable.**

**After all, of the seven previous encounters, Wales had won four, while the hard-hitting Samoans had won three, derailing Welsh World Cup hopes in both 1991 and 1999.**

**However, Wales could take comfort from the fact that in the last two meetings since then, they had partly gained revenge – by an emphatic 50-6 margin in 2000 and 17-13 in 2009.**

**If further incentive was needed, it was surely provided by Ireland's inspired 15-6 victory over the fancied Australians on Saturday – in the process, showing just how to negate the southern hemisphere's physical threat, with unrelenting pressure-play up front for the full 80 minutes.**

**Moreover, that result opened up the mouth-watering prospect of a possible Wales versus Ireland quarter final clash – and who would dare bet on *that* outcome?**

**On Sunday, the Welsh camp knew everything hinged on overcoming a fired-up Samoan team confident of wrecking their World Cup hopes for the third time – and indeed, a nervy, error-strewn first half had the alarm bells ringing loudly.**

**First, full back James Hook missed a penalty in the opening minute, then poor handling cost Wales a certain try – and Rhys Priestland, who otherwise had another sound game at outside half, sent a drop goal attempt sailing wide of the upright.**

**Meanwhile, it was the Samoans who were taking the game to their opponents up front, gaining success in both set piece and loose and looking far more dangerous in attack, as Welsh errors (both forced and unforced) mounted alarmingly.**

*Shane Williams scores his 55th try for Wales, and arguably his most important!* Picture: Huw Evans Agency

**The pressure inevitably told with a typically rugged converted try, to add to Samoa's earlier penalty – and Wales came out for the second half 6-10 down, with the injured James Hook, who had kicked two penalties, replaced by Leigh Halfpenny – and knowing that they had just 40 minutes to rescue their World Cup 2011 campaign.**

**Almost immediately, Priestland reduced the margin to one point with a penalty and then edged his team 12-10 ahead with a second penalty, as superior Welsh fitness began to tell, forcing the tiring Samoans into errors of their own.**

**Even so, the game still swung in the balance until Welsh talisman, Shane Williams, took a hand, popping up to finish off an impressive breakaway move begun by Halfpenny, after a basketball pass by centre Jonathan Davies had gone astray.**

**With the try unconverted and the score at 17-10, Wales knew the battle wasn't over yet and for the remaining five minutes had to withstand a desperate all-out effort by Samoa, who simply refused to throw in the towel.**

**It may not have been a classic, except in terms of the raw courage and physical commitment shown by both sides, but nevertheless, it was an absolutely vital win that has kept Wales in the competition – and in the short term, that was all that counted.**

**In the long term, the result may well have a deeper psychological significance for a young, developing Wales team that have fallen short so many times when victory was within their grasp,**

**They have now broken the hold seemingly exerted over them by Samoa on the big stage – and after the disappointment of doing everything but win against world champions South Africa, they have shown that they *do* have the mental strength to protect a slender lead and close a game down in tight situations.**

**This invaluable lesson should stand them in good stead for their remaining Pool D games.**

**With it (hopefully) will come in due course, the absolute self-belief, epitomised by the All Blacks' ruthless mindset, that is critical for any lasting success on the world stage.**

**Starting with Namibia next week, followed by their other World Cup nemesis, Fiji, they will need to take the field *expecting*, rather than hoping to win, as was so often the case with other Welsh teams in recent years.**

**This talented side now have a supreme opportunity to prove to the world that after so many false dawns, Welsh rugby is truly back – and that inconsistency could at last be a thing of the past.**

***It is time for them to finally start believing!***

*Sunshine in the Cotswolds for the Cowbridge bowlers.*

# *Cowbridge bowlers enjoy a (sporting) tour of Cotswolds*

**COWBRIDGE Bowls Club went on their autumn tour, this year to the Cotswolds.**

The weather was kind and all four matches were played in sunshine, a feat in itself this summer.

The bowlers stayed in Whitney, and the first match was a six-rinker against Woodstock, which was lost 86-132, with only one winning rink, May Jones', by a good score of 29-19.

Other members of May's rink were Clive Pritchard, Sylvia Hole and John Jones.

In the second match against Bloxham, which was a five-rinker, the tourists lost on all five for a total score of 54-97, with only one close match on Norman Wilkinson's rink with Margaret Sewell, Rob Lewis and Pat Davey, who only lost on the last end, 14-15.

The third match was at Chipping Norton and was six rinks. This time, Cowbridge won two rinks but lost the match 98-136. The winning rinks were Roger Brewer, Janet Morton, Pat Davey and skip David Jones by 23-10, which turned out at the end of the week to be the best winning rink.

The other winning rink was Norman Wilkinson's, with three new bowlers, Dorothy Pritchard, Sylvia Hole and Guy Morton, by 25-20.

They finished the week with a game against Witney Town, which was a really close match with a losing score of only 105-108.

This time, the tourists won on four rinks and only lost on two. The winning rinks were: Margaret Sewell, Sylvia Hole, John Jones and skip Pat Davey by 21-13; Ron Woolford, Clive Pritchard, Pat Holdsworth and skip May Jones by 21-12; Mansel Davey, Rob Lewis, Joy Woolford and skip David Jones won 18-14; and skip Norman Wilkinson's rink of Mary Thomas, Jan Lewis and Ron Frayling, 21-13.

The week was again an enjoyable time, with 27 bowlers and four non-bowlers, and president Brenda Dwek there for support.

The club thanks Mansel Davey for putting the tour into place and doing another good job, with help from the man with the money, John Jones (the treasurer) and player/manager, Norman Wilkinson.

**NJW**

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# POWER PACK IS THE KEY FOR COWBRIDGE VICTORY

**LAST Saturday, Cowbridge RFC set off for Porthcawl and, in front of a good crowd, secured an important 19-28 win.**

Before the game there was a two-minute silence for the miners who perished at Gleision Colliery.

The game kicked off and outside-half Carwyn Morgan put over his first penalty.

Cowbridge halted a Porthcawl attack and centres Huw Lougher and Luke Boys swept upfield to secure a second penalty for Morgan.

Porthcawl got their first points with a penalty at the mid point, but five minutes later, a scrum saw Cowbridge drive Porthcawl back for No 8 and captain, Ross Llewellyn, to touch down.

Porthcawl bounced back just three minutes later, their lively outside-centre touching down for an unconverted try.

After a number of warnings for dissent, Porthcawl's outside-half was sent to the sin bin, and Morgan put over the penalty from 30 metres.

From what started as a Cowbridge attack, Porthcawl stripped the ball, moved it right to their outside-centre who ran hard, chipped over the full-back and won the race to the line.

Just before half time, Cowbridge had a drive held up over the line, and from the scrum they drove No 8 Llewellyn over for his second converted try, for a half time score of 13-21.

Injured second row Ross Gibbon was replaced by Carwyn Davies and Porthcawl put over a penalty for offside after three minutes.

Impressive second row Steve Birchenough had to retire from the fray and was replaced by Alun John.

A scrum saw the Cowbridge eight push Porthcawl back and No 8 Llewellyn got his hat-trick; Morgan put over a great conversion from the touchline.

Porthcawl narrowed the gap with another penalty, but the last chance went again to Morgan. However, his penalty hit the post and bounced back.

**Final score 19-28.**

This was a good win away from home and the plaudits have to go to the Cowbridge pack, with special mention of the front row of David Popham, Luke Adams and Jon Philips.

The exciting prospect is that with a very useful pack, and Carwyn Morgan orchestrating the backs, there is surely a lot more to come.

**RV/RK**

*(SEE MORE COWBRIDGE RUGBY ON PAGE 24)*

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